App. F. IX-4

1926.

File No. 5-7-26

Previous References (Police)

Pol 104-25(1-4)

Serial Nos. 1

Later References

Pol 60. 32- 5 & 7.

U. Dep. 160/42

Pol. 277-46-(7, 8, 9, 10)

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial One.

Part B for September 1926.

SUBJECT

Conduct of Mr Searle in connection with the Spinning mills disturbance on the 20th July 1926.

G.O. No. 1199-200 dt 4-9-26 to the I.G. of Police

Comptroller

Passes orders on the above

Manamaney Iyengar.

7-8-26

[G. R. S. III—1] 1926

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

NOTES.

File No. 57-26

FILE HEADING.

Conduct of Mr. Searle in connection with the Bunny Mills disturbances.

From

No.	Dated	Received

Diary No.	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First Sheet.

W.D. 1851—G.P.B.—30,000—1-8-21

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

The Dist Magte (Fin Station or City Magistrate is requested to go for the Bings when a Riot is said to be taking place & take all needful measures.

If more Special Reserve etc is req'd, it shd be summoned at once.

8/1 20/7.

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Telephone message 39

From R. Shama Rao
Asst to the I. G. of police
Bangalore

To
The 1st member
of Council
Bangalore.

A disturbance from the work men was reported at about 2 P.M. from the Bangalore woollen Cotton mills. A detachment of 40 Special reserve men under A.S.P.'s and mission mills, Searle was sent immediately to the spot City A.S.P. also gone to the spot. District magistrate has also been telephoned to. 21-4 since learned that the district magistrate has gone to the spot

D/ 20/3/24 Subs to the First Member

Chg.
20/7

4

4

Office of the Inspector General of Police in Mysore,

Dated Bangalore, the 20th July 1926.

Sir,

In continuation of the telephone messages submitted for the ~~Perusal~~/your information, I beg to send this advance and brief report for the ~~Perusal~~ information owing to the absence of the Inspector-General of Police from Head Quarters.

The Inspector General of Police went to Mysore yesterday, where there is some misunderstanding between the "Punja" and "No Punja" followers and enquiring en-route at Closepet and Channapatna into the dissensions between the two factions at these two places. As a safeguard the Inspector General of Police has deputed one Officer and 15 men to each of these places.

At about 2 P.M. to-day we received a phone message followed by a letter from the Assistant Manager of the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills, "that there is a slight disturbance amongst our work-people" and asking for Police help. I phoned this news to the District Police Superintendent's Office for the information of the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police and sent intimation to the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City with a Clerk as also a written communication.

Inspector Mr. Anderton was sent with 25 Special Reserve Men to the Mills to be ready for an emergency and Mr. Keller, Assistant Superintendent of Police for Railways and C.I.D. was sent to the Mills to enquire and intimate the situation. He telephoned that the Coolies had struck work and that the situation was grave. In the meantime Mr. Searle, Assistant Superintendent of Police of the Special Reserve who was sent for, arrived and he went to the Mills with another 25 men more to be held in reserve for emergencies.

Telephone messages for the information of the Dewan and 1st Member were sent to the Public Offices giving them the available information at the time, and a telephone message was sent to the Deputy

Deputy Commissioner's Office to apprise the Deputy Commissioner of the situation.

It is said that the mob attacked the Police detachment with brick-bats stones and sticks, threatened violence to one or two of the European employees of the Mills. Six or seven Police men of the Reserve were hurt and some were very badly. I had to supplement the Reserve by deputing 50 men more constables of the Police Training School to be ready for further emergencies.

From oral information to hand it is learnt that the Coolies struck work because there was some delay or objection to the payment of the half-yearly bonus; the mob assumed a defiant attitude showed no signs to retire in peace. or resume work. A detachment of the Reserve and some of the European employees were held up in their rooms and the 2nd Police detachment was fiercely attacked. It is said that the Police were forced to open fire and I very much regret that three unfortunate coolies died and that 3 or 4 have sustained injuries.

Necessary Police protection was offered to the European Staff and arrangements made to guard the Mills. premises and the quarters of the European Officers as a precautionary measure.

About 100 Police men are now on duty at the Mills and the surroundingsand arrangements have been made for their food for the night and for their break-fast to-morrow morning as these men are out on duty at a stretch. The Bangalore City Force are otherwise engaged on account of the Moharrum Antion.

The Inspector General of Police has been given intimation of these events and I received intimation that he would be returning to Bangalore early morning to-morrow the 1st instant.

It is learnt that the Dewan Saib was engaged with the Managing Directors from 4.30 to 6 P.M.and after hearing from him a few conciliatory words of advice the mob began to disburse and by ~~6~~ 7 P.M. the whole mob had cleared away.

The District Magistrate, the Special Magistrate, the

the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City and the Officers of the City Police were on the scene. A further report in this affair will form the subject of a communication from the Inspector General of Police to Government on receipt of the Official reports from the City Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalor District.

I have the honour
to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
R Shamaiah
Asst Supdt of P

To

K. Chandy, Edquire, B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

7. 16

Extract from the Proceedings of the 778th *Meeting of the Council of His Highness the Maharaja, held at Bangalore on the* 22nd July 1926. *19*

31. Subject. - Clause v of the schedule.

Action to be taken against the Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Reserve Police, Mr. Searle in connection with the Mill riots.

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Searle may be placed under suspension pending the receipt of a detailed report into the shooting. The First Member dissents and is of opinion that such action should be postponed till the report is received and considered by Government.

(Signed) Mirza M. Ismail,

Dewan of Mysore.

Hag 7.

Ente D-SR

"EXTRACT"

Dewan

22/7/26

Chief Secretary to Government.

22.7.26

WD 1471—GPB—2,000—1-8-21

Very dtd

Send with

To enquire why Lord Cecil
was not used & how
the Study Societies &c.
Send

Draft
&
24/7
Send with a draft

24/7 Send Tapp. Jones
&
24/7

9 22

Submitted to His Highness.

In connection with the strike in the Bangalore Woollen Cotton and Silk Mills, of which the Managing Agents are Messrs. Binny & Co., Madras, the Police who were called into help seem to have fired on the mob with the result that four persons were killed and two were wounded. As soon as I heard of the occurrence, I visited the spot and made some enquiries and I have asked the District Magistrate to furnish a detailed report.

Until the departmental investigation is completed, it is difficult to find out all the facts accurately but the position seems to have been as follows:-

The Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Searle, who came in with the second batch of the Reserve Police seems to have lost his head, and opened fire on the mob without following all the precautions prescribed by law in such cases. According to the standing orders firing has to be resorted to as the last recourse. A Magistrate is required to be ordinarily present before any such action is decided upon so that the responsibility for firing may rest with the Civil authorities who may be expected to be better able to judge whether the attitude of the mob requires such an extreme measure, in the interests of public safety than the Military or the Police.

Mr. Searle, taking the most favourable view, seems to have altogether exceeded his authority and if he is placed under suspension such prompt action on the part of Government is likely to have a wholesome effect as indicating the attitude of the Government to deal impartially with their officers should they exceed their powers. By placing him under suspension - - Government will not be in any way pre-judging the case, for in case the detailed report is in his favour he

may be reinstated, in which case the suspension cases to be operative. Personally, I am satisfied - and this I state after several visits to the spot and after interviewing many people - that the Assistant Superintendent grossly misjudged the situation and was guilty of a serious blunder and deserves condign punishment.

The matter was considered in Council. The First Member is of opinion that it is desirable to postpone taking any action against Mr.Searle until the detailed report is received. For the reasons I have given it does not seem to be necessary to wait for a detailed report. The Second Member agrees with me. I have, therefore, issued orders directing the suspension of Mr.Searle and I submit the matter for His Highness's gracious information.

Bangalore,
23rd July 1926.

Mirza M. Ismail

11 21

C 26

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Action to be taken against the Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Reserve Police, Mr.Searle, in connection with the Mill riots.

Order.

~~KRW~~

26/7/26

C Secy

PM

27.7.26

1st Member

28/7

Secy HH

28/7

28/7

5

REPLY

(To be written on this margin.)

Office of the Dewan of Mysore

NOTE

Dated 23-7-1926

DEWAN'S OFFICE
Received on
23 JUL 1926
Reg. No. Memo 75

C. Secy

It is necessary to appoint a Committee to report on the cause or causes of the recent trouble in the Bowring Mills & to enquire into the grievances of the labourers in the Mills in question. Matter may be considered now.

I shall be glad if you will write me a note in this, & also consult the Labour Secy.

JM
23.7.26.

Secy Labour
for favour of note.
Shall we
discuss the matter
with Comm

23/7

Action as submitted.

Chief Secy
with Compts

24/7

I submit herewith the report of the District Magistrate and of the City Magistrate who investigated the case and examined witnesses. The City Magistrate is of opinion that "there were justifying causes for opening fire though so many shots should not have been fired and that directly in a parallel line, so as to hit the trunks and heads of the men in the crowd." He also says that "the bullets used appeared to be very powerful which have made such terrible and deep holes in the bodies of the dead and the bones appeared to have been smashed to pieces. This is not as it should be." "The object is only to create fear by causing some injury. Ordinary buckshots should, I believe, have been used on the occasion and not such dreadful bullets. Further the shots should have been hit low so as to injure the legs. But it is in evidence that the shots were fired in a parallel line. Some of the men who fired the shots themselves admit this fact, but state that they were nervous with fear at the time." He says that the firing was entrusted to one R.Peter who did not know how to handle a gun and had no practice in firing. He says further that Mr. Searle ought to have given proper directions to his men as to the manner of shooting the crowd and should have acted with a little greater caution."

From the report it is clear that no warning was given to disperse, that the officer did not command the crowd to disperse and distinctly warn it that the fire will be

effective.

Secondly Mr. Searle was not in uniform and was in mufti and that the order of firing was not given only in the last resort. The firing was over the heads of the crowd and no order was given to cease firing immediately after the mob showed ~~the~~ signs of inclination to retire. These are quite contrary to article ~~513~~ 513 of the Mysore Police Manual and the instructions conveyed to Police Officers in the Government order of 25th November 1921. These relate to the excess committed but as to the actual necessity of opening fire we have to examine evidence independently and come to the conclusion. The law on the subject is as follows:--

The justification for firing can be rested on two grounds (1) that in order that such firing be lawful it must, in the case of a riot, be necessary to stop or prevent such serious and violent crime both to life and property and (2) it must be conducted without recklessness or negligence. This is the law as propounded by the Commissioners consisting of Lord Bowen, Sir Albert Rollit and Mr. Haldane Q.C. (now ~~Lord~~ Viscount Haldane) appointed to enquire into the colliers' strike in 1893 when the military had to be called ~~upon~~ in to suppress the riot and some men were shot during a riot at Featherstone. The same test will apply to India to claim exemption under Section 76 of the Penal Code. (See Gour Penal Law of India p. 380.)

I shall carefully examine in detail

all the points and submit my Note early after seeing the evidence recorded by the magistrate. Prima facie it appears that the Sub Collr cannot claim exemption from his acts under law

Nagappa
24.7.1927

Dewan
1st Member

Dr
24/7

Mr. Nagappa has formed conclusions opposite to those formed by the Asst Magte & Dist Magte before perusing the Evidence. I am sorry I am unable to accept this opinion before perusing the Evidence. I have ahead called for the Record. This may be noted in the record.

Dr
24/7/26.

940
24/7

N O T E

Re: the necessity or otherwise of appointing a Committee to report on the causes of the recent trouble in the Binny Mills and to enquire into the grievances of the labourers in the Mills.

.....

This involves two questions which are distinct and ought to be considered separately, for different considerations have to be applied in the solution of these questions. I shall first deal with the question of enquiry into the cause or causes of recent troubles in the Binny Mills.

The Commission is generally appointed to enquire into various matters and give a considered opinion upon such matters with a view to help Government in arriving at a conclusion which is necessary to discharge their function. One of the essential functions of Government is the maintenance of peaceable and orderly relations within the community itself. It is, therefore, the duty of Government to suppress crime and to enquire into the causes that ~~lead~~ led to a riot and to take such precautions as will effectually prevent such serious crimes in future. With this object in view, several commissions have been appointed in the past to enquire into the cause of serious riots. During the Collier's strike in 1893, military had to be called out and some men were shot during a riot at Featherstone. A commission was appointed by Government to report on the causes of the riot and the law which should govern the military on such emergency. A report was submitted by the Commissioners and the Government acted upon their report. Many such instances can be quoted

where commissions were appointed to enquire into the causes of strikes or riots. Hence there seems to be no legal objection to appoint a commission to enquire into the cause or causes of the recent disturbances in the Binny Mills and to report on the causes of the riot and the law which should govern police on such an emergency. In enquiring into the causes that led to the riot the commission had naturally to touch upon the grievances of the mill hands that directly led to the disturbance. The City Magistrate in his report has observed as follows:--

"That Joseph as spokesman of the workmen said to have told the Manager to give him a written agreement stating that he would pay the bonus in 3 days, and that as the latter refused to give such an undertaking the workmen refused to work and said that they would go away if their dues up to date were settled and that the Manager is said to have asked for 5 minutes' time. But Joseph says that he did not know why he asked for 5 minutes time."

If this version is correct, it shows that there would have been no riot if the Manager had acted tactfully or had told them that he would settle the matter according to their demand to pay off their dues."

"The taking of life can only be justified by the necessity of protecting persons or property against various forms of violent crime, or by the necessity of dispersing a riotous crowd which is dangerous unless dispersed.. The necessary prevention of such an outrage on person and property justifies th

guardians of peace in the employment against a riotous crowd of even deadly weapons. The whole action of the military when once called in ought from first to last, to be based on the principle of doing, and doing without fear, that which is absolutely necessary to prevent serious crime and of exercising all care and skill with regard to what is done. If any one of these two conditions are not fulfilled the officer acting will not be exempted ~~from law~~ liable to be made responsible for his acts (Vide Section 76, Indian Penal Code. Gour p.391).

The duty of acting by using arms depends entirely on the necessities of each case. This necessity can only be found out by collecting impartial evidence and sifting the same with a view to find out the exact situation at the time when the fire was opened. This can only be done by an impartial commission composed of judicial and other persons who have knowledge of men and matters and who are free from bias. I therefore submit for consideration of Govt the desirability of appointing ~~that~~ a committee consisting of Messrs. Mushir-ul-mulk Mir Humza Hussain as Chairman, S.G.Forbes, Chief Electrical Engineer and Ramachandra Rao Sindhia, member of the Chamber of Commerce who employs labour in his mills.

Regarding the second question, namely, whether a committee can be appointed to enquire into the grievances of the Mill hands. This question raised important issues and does not admit of easy solution. The solution of this question largely depends upon the interference by the State with natural and inalienable rights and feedom of contract by individuals upon the maintenance of which depends

the harmony of social interests. The main function of Government according to Bethamite principles which prevailed up to the middle of 20th century is the maintenance of doctrine of laissez Faire i.e., non-interference of Government with the private rights of citizens. When the factory system made its appearance and brought about the industrial revolution the doctrine of laissez Faire and individualism which pervaded the social mind gave way to prestige and authority of collectivism. "The whole line of factory acts in force both in India and England is the most notable achievement of English socialism". (See Dicey "Law and Opinion in England" p.238)

Triumph of collectivism over individualism & the modification of the doctrine of laissez faire.

"The effect indeed of factory legislation embodied in the Ten hours Act and the enactments which led up to it, may appear at first sight to be nothing more than the protection from overwork of children, young persons and women employed in a limited number of manufactories. But this legislation had in reality far wider results. It recognised the principle that the regulation of public labour is the concern of the State and laid the basis for a whole system of governmental inspection and control. It fixed the hours of labour in the factories to which it applied for every woman, whatever her age and conferred upon her a protection, as well as imposed upon her a disability which is absolutely unknown to the common law of England and is directly opposed to the fundamental assumptions of individualism." (Ibid pp.238-239).

Effect of Factory Legislation.

The factory legislation, even the latest Act of 1922, aims at remedying the defects which are still inherent in the process of manufacture and of production and the control of the abuses

Object of Factory legislation.

which may prevail in its operation, It aims at affording protection to women and children and adult males in the matter of fixing working hours and in safeguarding their morals, health, sanitation and education. The legislation has not gone far beyond this ~~to~~ that of interfered with the freedom of contract between the employer and the employee in respect of wages to be paid. The inequality in the present system of distribution, such as low wages and unemployment, largely arise from the capitalistic control of the industry rather than from the factory system. They are more or less common to all classes of labourers working under the wage system. The solution of these problems depends upon the democratisation of the present industrial organisation rather than upon factory legislation". (See Rajani Kantha ~~Boss~~ Das on Factory Legislation in India p.188).

It appears to me, therefore, that no useful purpose would be served by appointing a committee to enquire into the grievances of the mill hands and to report upon the questions raised by Mr. Raghavendrachar in his letter to the Dewan dated 22nd July 1926. These questions have to be settled between the Labour organisation on the one hand, and the mill authorities on the other.

Bangalore
26th July 1926

WD 01264—GPB—40,000—17-12-25

General and Revenue Secretariat

File No 567 of 192 6.

Serial No

—

1/

The note [illegible] that Govt cannot appoint a Commission to enquire into the internal working of the Mill & also the conditions under which the labourers are made to work there are satisfied that Govt can appoint a Commission to enquire into the causes that led to the riot & incidentally into the strike and whether the action taken by the Police was justifiable or not. So far as Govt servants are concerned it may not be expedient to appoint any such Commission as Govt can deal with such matters on the reports of their officers. If the scope of the Commission is to be limited to enquiry into the L&B Dept I do not think it will serve much useful purpose and might create unnecessary excitement.

The matter may however be considered at the next meeting of Council

24/7/26

I agree with the Chief Secy that the appt of a Commission to enquire into the present rioting will only create unnecessary excitement. For one thing there are no independent witnesses

OFFICE OF THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL 27 JULY 1926 No. 1026

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

The Extent to which our
Factory Plan is capable of
improvement seems to be a
matter on which a Committee
could throw light. The Question
might be considered in Council if Dlwe approve.

DE
27/7/26

Dawson

28/7/

League

JM
28-7-26

OFFICE OF THE
SECOND REVISER OF COUNCILS
28 JULY 1926
No. 650

Send Number

Include in Summary
Notes

28/7

Included.
28/7/26

28/7/26

28-7-26

25-7.26. 2pm (12) 23 pp

keep with file per 27.7.

Mr Seale's Version

Mr. Seale wanted to know his version but Mr. Shawe Rawdon it was very urgent & he said to attend. Took 1 Hailstone & 5 men. The Kenyan Sergeant said his men was by head beaten & might be murdered. & Chas said he was going to shoot Der Mr to get orders - to fire. Seale understood in a way that firing was needed (this is perhaps what he said) Got in by a back gate. Laborers just Threw stones & brickbats & afterwards Kaffirina billets. Then Reserve advanced with fixed bayonets. Lab won't move. One billet hit a Sergeant & his rifle fell. Then Sergeant was upset & D. fire order to fire. but he didn't. He waved L. in Tamil to make room. They wouldn't. He seized a rifle & aimed at L. & said he will shoot if he don't move. They jeered & threw stones. Then he fired in the air. They came rushing. He asked Hailstone & cheer 3 men to fire & fire low. Seven shots fired. Then Cond fell back after seeing 2 dead men. Poor Cond came back again & waved to push the others. They had to face the Cond & back & get into [illegible] When he [illegible] pointed his gun or before? a ladder was thrown from above wh. just missed. If he had not advanced he & his men would have been beaten & perhaps killed.

Has won many Cups for Shooting & Kenya Cup in 1911 — was Captain this year. Is an Irishman who came straight from England in the R.A. was a rough rider — was in Poona Police during the murders & some disturbances & in Bombay

Police. Came to Door & Kept Cry with his adopted Mother Mrs Rambe as suggested by Palace.

City Door Supt asked Serle again to fire but Serle did not. City Door says & his men actual fire in only after Serle had fired and Come with his men.

City Door asked Dist Magte to avert the ringleaders but Serle said that was not Enough.

26/7

Insp Anderton was 22 years in R.E. & was Serle & Kept ammunition with him for in his main Gate. Had been asked by A.C.G. not to fire without Magte orders. Asurina billets & Stones Thrown at men. were fouly abused & asked to clear out. There are dismissed Sp R. men & relations of present SDP men among the mill hands. & the Insp & men for into Managers room & Shut themselves in. After some time the Insp & Serle came out with the Manager behind him, leaving the men inside. & palavered with the men. After a little Insp saw a movement in the crowd towards the fuel Gate (when Serle had retired). & a little after, he heard some Cooles say Fire & fire' - & then they began throwing Stones &c again at him & abused them. The noise & confusion was so great that he did not hear the Gunshots. Before his men & he took shelter in the Manager's room - 13 men were hurt.

3 ae Shill attending Hospital.

Mir Shydar Haidar seen with
9 men. Gor in 3 from gate.
Stones & bills from. ~~He~~ also
~~a~~ an iron rod was seen on
Haidars hand in the leg. 5
This men while going to Hospital.
(altogether 25 or 30 going to Hosp)
They saw & Gor into Shelter
in the Notice Room. The most
liked to hear for the door
beat the Guard who cd hear in-
Those ~~window~~ glass panes.
~~Jan~~ Rejoined the party
after Subs arrival.

Office of the Publicity Officer,
Public Offices,
Bangalore, Dated 28th July 1926.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

In view of the conflicting, and in some cases unquestionably incorrect, reports that have been published regarding the disturbance in the Bangalore Silk, Woollen and Cotton Mills on Tuesday the 20th instant, the Publicity Officer is directed to publish the following brief summary of the evidence recorded in the summary enquiries made immediately after the occurrence. It is necessary to observe, however, that these enquiries were not complete and that the matter is still under investigation by the District Magistrate, so that it is quite possible that any conclusions based on the earlier enquiries may need modification.

There would appear to be no doubt that the disturbance had its origin in the anxiety of the workmen of the Mills as to whether they would receive a bonus for the half-year ending 30th June 1926. They had received such bonuses in recent years, and the date on which they expected payment had passed. When they approached the Manager in the matter, he told them that he had not yet received the orders of the Head Office, and asked them to wait for three days for these to be obtained. In reply, they demanded an agreement in writing that the bonus would be paid in three days. As the Manager was unable to give this, the workmen struck work, used threats to kill embers of the staff, and began to pelt stones and to thrust sticks into the windows of the office. The trouble appears to have begun at about 10 o'clock in the morning, but came to a head on the return of the men after the lunch interval. As it became more and more serious, repeated messages were sent for police aid.

The City policemen, who had only their batons, were unable to make any impression on the crowd, and could not even force an entry into the Mill. A first party of 26 Reserve Police managed to make their way to the Manager's office in the face of a threatening crowd of 4,000 men, who resented their interference. Six of them suffered injury in so doing. Finding themselves unable to control the crowd, they took refuge in the office, which they were unable to leave. A second party of 9 men advanced with fixed bayonets, but were unable to force their way through the gate. They all received injuries, more or less severe in character, and had to take refuge in the Guard Room, where they were besieged, and considerable damage was done to the premises. At this stage, telephone messages were sent for further men, also asking for the presence of an officer who had power to give orders to open fire. Meanwhile, a third party of 9 men under the Assistant Superintendent of Police had arrived. Finding themselves unable to enter by the main gate, they secured an entry to the Mills by a gate at the back. On the way they received reports from other police officers that there was a very serious situation in the Mills. The party advanced with fixed bayonets, to be met with showers of sticks and stones. Their remonstrances to the crowd passed unheeded; nor did the pointing of their rifles towards the crowd or the firing of a shot in the air

have any better effect. Eventually, the Assistant Superintendent ordered firing. The evidence as to the number of men who were ordered to fire and as to the manner of firing is conflicting, and it is undesirable to attempt to summarise it until it has been thoroughly sifted. As a result, two were killed on the spot, two died in hospital and two were wounded, who are now out of danger. After the firing, the police advanced, but were unable to reach the Manager's office, and had again to retreat with their rifles pointed towards the crowd.

At about 3 p.m., the City Magistrate arrived on the spot and found the crowd in an excited state and the premises strewn with stones, billets, sticks and iron rods. The District Magistrate arrived ten minutes later and both advised the crowd to disperse, leaving a few men behind to discuss the matters in issue. The workmen were unwilling to leave without gate passes on the ground that, if they did so, they would be taken as having been discharged. Nor would they accept an undertaking from the District Magistrate that this would not be so.

The Dewan, accompanied by the First Member of Council, arrived on the spot at about 4-45 p.m. His presence had a salutary effect and the workmen placed their grievances before him and received an assurance of redress. Thereafter, they dispersed in an orderly manner.

It is understood that the matter of the bonus has since been amicably settled and that the workmen have returned to work. Also, that suitable compensation has been given in the case of the men who were killed or injured. The District Magistrate is now making an exhaustive enquiry into the whole affair, and pending receipt of his conclusions, the Assistant Superintendent of Police who ordered the firing has been suspended from duty.

R. RANGA RAO,
Publicity Officer to the Government of Mysore.

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam

It is stated in the Press Communique that the Govt. Engineer has come to Shillong on a detailed enquiry. I do not think he has been asked any detailed enquiry after he submits his report.

I am putting up below Copies of the records of enquiry & other relevant papers, for favour of submission to Diwan.

Further action may perhaps be discussed informally in Council if Diwan approves.

28/7/26

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
28/7

Diwan
28/7/26

Vice Chancellor — 663/29.7
28/7/26

Mail
29.7.26

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Urgent Subject. - 29 C43.

Question of appointing a Committee to report on the causes of the recent disturbance in the Binny Mills and to enquire into the grievances of the labourers in the Mills.

....

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL.

Note

No necessity to appoint a Committee - the matter as to the course to be taken may be taken up at the next meeting. The Chairman may proceed to put up a note

By
29/7/20

"All the files regarding Binny Mills Strike may be put up as regard action to be taken in connection with the strike concerned

Secy Lab

Returned with the note requested. The Secy Labour is requested to put up the file with instructions for the Chairman as to the course in which the note will be prepared. The Darwan awaits to consider it in Council on Thursday

30/7

All the papers connected with this file are sent to the Secy Labour Committee's report to Revisory. Memorandum and Correspondence with Conciliation Board Secy

WD 01264—GPB—40,000—17-12-25

App. F. III—2]

ral and Revenue Secretariat

Pol File No. 57 of 1926. 30

Serial No.

16) All the papers connected with ~~Bangi~~ disturbance at Bunny Fo. are submitted as per direction in the Council.

1st Member.

2/5

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

(26/43/65) Linked.

The relations between capital and labour, the proper time when an order to fire on a riotous crowd should be given, and the amount of "punishment" that it should receive for attaining the object in view, are among the most difficult of questions to decide, and when all these factors are combined as is the case in the Binny Mills affair, arriving at a correct judgment is exceedingly difficult. It is not easy for different minds to form the same opinion regarding any of these factors. What follows is the opinion that I have formed after a careful study of all the evidence that is on record, and after interviewing Mr. Searle and others who were concerned.

2 There are certain facts which have to be borne in mind when judging the conduct of Mr. Searle. The evidence shows that he was not to blame at all in not being in uniform. He was on his way to the office when the Assistant Inspector General's chit reached him, he hurried up and was asked to go at once without wasting time for going back to his house which is nearly a mile away. It may be mentioned here that the mill coolies know their own officers, and from what they told Inspector Anderton they must have understood that Mr. Searle was a Police officer. It was not his fault that his men had only .303 bullets instead of buck shot, and finally it was not his fault that although the disturbance had been going on for some hours, no Magistrate had yet appeared on the scene. It should also be stated here that Mr. Searle does not take liquor in the day time, and was quite sober when the Assistant Inspector General saw him before despatching

Serial No.

him to the scene of rioting, and the City Magistrate and the District Magistrate also found him to be cool and collected. This was clearly the impression that I formed when I saw him. Mr. Searle is an Irishman, is one of the best shots in India, and the holder of the Viceroy's cup for rifle shooting. A good shot is usually cooler than others in the midst of danger, and Mr. Searle's action, unless there is very strong evidence to the contrary, might be presumed to have been taken after cool consideration of the facts and not in a panic.

3 The important facts are as follows:-

The Sergeant of the Kengeri Gate Police Station and a few of his men who had gone to quell the riot were driven out by the coolies. The Sergeant told Mr. Searle that the Reserve Police men who had preceded him were being beaten and were in danger. When he went near the Mills the C.I.D. Assistant Inspector told him the same thing. It should be stated here that this Sergeant, the C.I.D. Inspector Mr. Mellor and the Assistant Inspector, all seem to have run away somewhat precipitately and although I had sent word to these officers also in order that I might learn from their own mouths what had happened they failed to turn up probably out of an uneasy conscience. Finding it impossible to get a way through the main entrance and as a matter of tactics also, Mr. Searle got in through a back gate, which was closed immediately afterwards. The Mill premises, it has to be noted, so far as ingress and egress goes, are like a Jail, that is to say, people that are inside could not get out unless one of the doors is opened. When Mr.

Serial No.

Mr. Searle and his men got in, a portion of the rioters veered towards him. They threw stones and billets at his men, one of the billets hit one of the men so severely that he had to drop his rifle, and a ladder was thrown from above, which narrowly missed the part but hit one in the hip. Mr. Searle and his men know Tamil; they waved their hands and spoke in Tamil asking the rioters to make way. What Mr. Searle wanted was to go to the rescue of his men who were in danger. The first of batch of 25 special Reserve Constables which had strict instructions from Mr. Shama Rao (A.I.G) not to fire, ha to escape from the angry mob and was shut up in the Manager's room. The Havaldar of the second batch of 10 men was seriously hurt, had to run outside and find shelter in the electric office nearby. Most of his men were hurt and had to run and find shelter inside the notice-board room. The door of this was attempted to be battered in but without success. The plan of the rioters manifestly was to deal with the Manager and others, who were alleged to have refused bonus, i their own way without interference from the Police. I has to be stated that these mill coolies are not liko an ordinary Mysore crowd; some of them are ex-special reserve men; many of them are ex-sepoys who had been in the war, and they are not afraid of the Police or of the mere show of fire-arms as an average crowd is. In fact, the City A.S.P. and his men with batons were unable to make any impression or get in, and he, I believe, actually got in only after the firing. He himself admits that his Constables refused to follow him till he threatened to shoot them.

Serial No

4) Taking up the thread regarding the firing, Mr. Searle and his men as stated above, did ask the rioters to make way. The rioters did not take this warning. Bayonets were fixed and the guns were pointed at them. This also was not heeded. Mr. Searle then seized a rifle from one of his men and fired a bullet in the air. The effect of this was only that the men jeered at him and 'rushed' and 'advanced' nearer, manifestly for overpowering the small force. It was at this moment that the order was given to fire. What Mr. Searle says is "seeing that I was likely to be overpowered and I could not retire, as I was anxious about the reserve men who were already inside and as I had been informed that they had been beaten, I told the Havaldar and three men to fire one round on the ground (niche, i.e., below)". This statement puts the circumstances of the case clearly. It should be emphasised that the door having been closed, and the passage being narrow, any attempt at retiring would have resulted in the reserve men being mobbed and overpowered, and their rifles seized by the coolies some of whom knew how to use fire arms, and the results would have been disastrous. Although the men were quiet when we arrived on the scene, I know from personal experience that the attitude of a riotous mob when a high officer comes to the spot is very different from their attitude previously. These rioters had not quieted after the City Magistrate's arrival, failed to obey the District Magistrate's command and even the next day stones were thrown at the I.G. of Police and others. The mill coolies, as stated by some of the mill employees, were actually in a frenzy and were determined to thrash the Manager and per-

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

perhaps kill him. Mr. Searle's order was to fire low, that is, in order that only the legs should be broken, and that the people should not be killed. It is a fac that some bullets struck the ground; the shot that killed one of the men on the spot and another in the Victoria Hospital were manifestly bullets that had re-ricocheted. Of course, as a practised rifleman, he should have known that at such short distance some of the shots were likely to be fatal and this risk I presume, he took deliberately. The order to fire was thu in my opnion, in the circumstances of the case justified. It is a misfortune that the men were armed with weapons firing deadly bullets instead of buck shot. It is a misfortune that the orders were not clearly understood, that the Police men got excited and instead of three men firing low, 9 men fired, of which several shc were straight with the result that five lives have be lost. (No official report has yet been received of the fifth death). Perhaps, being aware that his men were armed with deadly weapons, and were excited, Mr. Searle should have made sure that only one shot was fired at a time; but it is practically impossible for any man to exercise such severe judgment in actual cir cumstances and it is, I think, more a misfortune than the result of a wrong judgment that so many lives were lost. As instances of Mr. Searle's cool judgment I may also mention that although these mill coolies mobbed him even after the firing, he did not order further firing, but retired backwards facing them wit bayonets fixed; that although the City A.S.P. appear to have told him to fire again, it was Mr. Searle wh replied that further firing was unnecessary, and

NOTE—Conte. Sheet

Serial No

after the District Magistrate's arrival, although the City A.S.P. wanted the rioters to be arrested it was Mr. Searle who told the District Magistrate that that would be dangerous as the force was not sufficient.

5) From the list furnished by the Medical Officer of the Victoria Hospital it may be seen that 23 Special Reserve men out of a total of 43 were hurt by the throwing of stones and billets, and that of these five received wounds. The statement of one of Mr. Searle's men that he does not know shooting seems, as stated by the I.G. of Police to be due to fear of personal violence from the Mill coolies. This constable had to be sent out from the Mills in woman's clothing.

15 received the under treatment (what I.G.P. said.)

6) I am not certain whether the District Magistrate and City Magistrate acted with sufficient promptitude in the matter of going to the spot. Evidence on this point is the District Magistrate's own, but my impression is that he should have gone much earlier in which case the situation would have taken a different turn.

7) It should perhaps admit ~~here~~ that my first impression was that the firing was unnecessary, but the weight of evidence has converted me to the present view.

8) I think that orders have to issue also that people who are sent out to quell riots should be armed with weapons using buck shot. I shall discuss this aspect with the I.G. of Police.

lee 4/8/26

9) May be considered by Commerce Member

4.8.26

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

8/8/26

Secretary (Mr. [redacted])

65

Extract from the Proceedings of the 780th *Meeting of the Cour*
Highness the Maharaja, held at Bangalore on the 5th August 1926

59. **Subject. - Clause v of the schedule.**

Action to be taken on the recent disturbance in the Binny Mills, Bangalore.

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Searle may be given whatever leave he is entitled from the date on which he was relieved till the date of su annuation.

Note. -

The explanation of the District Magistrate should be taken for not proceeding to the spot as soon as he was informed of the disturbance.

(Signed) Mirza M. Ismail,
Dewan of Mysore.

"EXTRACT"

Chief Secretary to Govern ment.

WD 1471—GPH—2,000—1-3-21

App. F. III—2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Pol File No. 57 of 1926.

39

Serial No.

Sealed cover is placed in the file which contains submission note and original drafts.

Initd. S.R.S.R.
4-9-26.

For original please see 1st page of the G.O. in the file.

Draft approved by Dewan and Member is forwarded to Secretary to G. for issue. The Dewan desires that it should issue today.

Initd. P.G.D.
4-9-26.

Issue today.

Initd. B.N.
4/9/26.

Initd. C.A.G.
4/9/26.

To the I.G. of Police
.. Bangalore.

G.O. No. P 1199-1209 dated 4-9-26.

Passes orders on the report on the disturbance during the strike at the Bangalore Woollen & Cotton (Spinning) Mills on the 20th July 1926.

NOTE—Contn. sheet

GPB—5,000—30-8-27

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

Dear Sandy

Thanks for your letter of the 9th inst. I am very glad to hear that you have got over your recent illness and I hope you will soon be quite well again.

I am sorry to hear that you are having a bad time with the Government over the Bailey Mill affair. I do not think it seems fair that you should be treated in this way and I hope that you will be able to get matters put right.

Yours sincerely,

41

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith for His Highness's information, a statement obtained from the Bangalore Woollen Cotton and Silk Mills, Co., Ltd., which shows the amounts paid to the heirs and dependents of the persons killed during the shooting on the 20th July 1926. Apart from the Gratuity fund, Bonus and Pay which were automatically disbursed to the nominees of the deceased, the management of the Mills have granted compensation by means of lumpsum payments and monthly pensions to the persons who had actually been dependent on the persons killed, and who were not in receipt of regular pay. In the absence of any legal provision for payment of compensation in such cases nothing more can be done in the way of granting substantial relief.

Bangalore,
1st Septr. 1926

Mirza M. Ismail

12533 926
P 8.

CS-335 42

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Statement showing the amounts paid by the Bangalore Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills Co., Ltd., to the heirs and dependants of the persons killed during the shooting on 20th July 1926.

Order.

KRM
2/9/26

C. Secy
2.9.26

Maybe placed in the Private Mail Bag for perusal; Mean see also Enclosure

Submitted for perusal

Immediate

The Ot Magistrate if in Station, or City Magistrate is requested to go forthwith to Binny's where a fighting is said to be taking place, & take all needful measures. If more special Reserve, Etc is required it should be summoned at once.

Signed B. Nagappa,
Lt. Secretary

20/7/26

Chij

20/7 Sent recd by Judicial Hd Munshi.

The Ot Magistrate has already gone to the Binnys. The Official has been asked to send the message to him.

Chij 20/7 Subd to Member:

D.O. No. P. 347 Police

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Bangalore, Dated 20.7. 1926

Dear Sir,

A riot is reported to be taking place at Binny's Mills. I am to request you to go forthwith to the spot and take all needful measures.

If more Special Reserve, etc. is required, it should be summoned at once.

Yours sincerely,

To

B. Venkoba Rao Esq., B.A.,

District Magistrate, Bangalore.

Memo No. P.348

Copy of the above is forwarded to the City Magistrate, Bangalore with a request that if the District Magistrate is not in the Station, he may take the necessary action.

By Order,

For Secretary to Government,
Local & Legis. Deptts.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

D.O. No. P. 369/Pol

Bangalore, Dated 20.7. 1926

Dear Sir,

A riot is reported to be taking place at Binny's Mills. The District Magistrate and the City Magistrate have been requested to take the necessary action. I am desired to inform you of the same and request you to furnish the necessary police help. The services of the Special Reserve may be utilised if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

To

P.F.Bowring Esq.,

Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

Rec 3.45 pm 21. 7 – 1926.

Dear Mr Ramakrishna

I received a telephone message confirmed by a letter from the Bangalore W.P.C. Mills – (Bangalore Mills new Manager-late) that they expect a small disturbance from the workmen shortly demanding restoration of 40 shl: [illegible]

Strictly confidential. 6 17

Proceedings of the Govt. of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

...

Order No. ೫೬೭-೨ /C.B. 10-26-1

Dated, Bangalore, the 22nd July 1926.

Government ~~are pleased to~~ direct that pending the ~~receipt~~ receipt of a detailed report in respect of the shooting ~~and riots~~ in the course of disturbance in the Bangalore Cotton, Woollen and Silk Mills, Ltd., Bangalore, on 20th instant, Mr. Searle, Asst. Supdt., in charge of R.P. be placed under suspension

Secretary to Govt.,
L. & L. Deptts.

To

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

" Comptroller, Mysore Govt.

Issue
22/7

G. R. S. G/33]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation sheet draft form.*)

7 19

Confl

D.O. 244/CB. dt 22/7/20

To

The A.G.P.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to enquire why knuckleduster was used by the Police in connection with the disturbance at the Bangalore Cotton Woollen and Silk mills on the 20th instant (and why the shooting practice is so bad).

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

This has been answered.

Sd/- 24/7.

31/7/20

G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR, B. A.,
Municipal Councillor.

Chamarajpet,
BANGALORE CITY.
22nd July 1926.

To

The Dewan of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

On behalf of the labourers of the Binny Mills, Bangalore City, I crave your indulgence to bring the following grievances which they -- suffer from at present, to your sympathetic notice. These grievences have been formulated by -- them in a meeting of their Labour Union held on the morning of the 21st instant.

1. The removal from the employ of the Bangalore City Binny Mills of Mr. Bentley, the cotton Weaving master and Mr. Southworth manager -- for their unsympatheitic attitude towards the labourers generally. The latter may be said to be responsible to some extent for the delay in ~~the payment~~

G. B. RAGHAVENDRACHAR, B. A.,
Municipal Councillor.

Chamarajpet, 9
BANGALORE CITY.

192 .

the payment of the half yearly bonus and for the recent trouble ending in the unfortunate death of innocent mill hands.

2. Compensating the death of the four persons by giving pensions to their parents or relatives.

3. That a Commission be appointed to enquire into the recent strike.

4. That the full wages for the 21st and 20th July should be paid to the labourers.

5. That the bonus given to the labourers be increased from 10% to 12½% which is what is -- paid in the Madras mills. The Labour Union at Madras is trying to raise it to 15%

6. That the wages of labourers for the special holidays during the year be paid to them.

7. That the mills agree to work only for hal

half a day on Saturdays.

8. That more lenient consideration be -- given to application for leave due to illness and other reasonable causes.

9. That the minimum wages in the weaving department be raised from 9½ as to 15½ as a day which is the rate paid in the Madras -- mills.

10. That in the Loom work, wages be increased from Rs.6/- to Rs.10/- the Madras rate.

11. That imposing fines which at present deprive the labourers of nearly 20 to 25% of their wages on an average be abolished or -- considerably reduced.

12. That women who are carrying be given leave on half wages for a period of not less than four months.

13.

13. That with regard to employment of Juveniles, suitable reform be adopted by not employing them in hard and prolonged work.

14. That a dining shed be erected for the convenience of the labourers for taking their midday meal or lunch.

15. That a more sympatheitic medical practitioner be appointed by the mills.

16. That the present 10 hours a day work be reduced.

17. That a Creche or milk centre be opened for the convenience of the children of the women employed in the mills.

18. That it must be clearly understood by the mill authorities that none of the labourers that have taken part in the strike, is -- made to suffer either in the form of dismissal

12

or suspension.

The labourers strongly feel that of the above items Nos. 1,2,3,4,5,10 and 14 are matters which demand immediate redress and they therefore wish their demands on these be complied with within three days. With regard to the rest of their grievances they are agreeable to the plan of referring them to an impartial Committee of arbitration consisting of yourself the Chief Director Mr. Kay and a person selected by them to represent their case.

I remain,
Sir,
Yours Sincerely,

by B Raghavendra

Municipal Councillor,

fm. 609.

24

No.C.C.26/26.

Office of the District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 22nd July 1926.

From

B. Venkoba Rao, Esqr., B.A.,
District Magistrate,
Bangalore District.

To

B. Nagappa, Esqr., Bar-at-law,
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Local and Legislative Departments.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith a preliminary report with regard to the occurrence in the Binny Mills on the 20th instant about which you gave a telephone message on the 20th and about which I have made personal reports to Members of Government.

2. On the 20th instant, just after 2 P.M. I received intimation from the Head Quarter Inspector that a telephone message had been received from the Assistant to the Inspector General of Police that the Managers of the Binny Mills had telephoned to that office that a slight disturbance was apprehended and that police help was wanted and that Special Reserve Police Constables had been sent. When I made further enquiries, I was told that there was no calling for the magistrate, and that the matter was brought for my information. I told the Head Quarter Inspector that developments should be carefully watched and intimated to the City Magistrate who should be taken to the spot if necessary and that I should also be kept informed from time to time of the situation. I ordered my car at once and was waiting for further developments. At about 3 P.M. Mr. Ranga Iyengar, the City Magistrate in charge, called and said that he had a telephone message saying that there was much disturbance in the Binny Mills and that the City Magistrate's presence was necessary. I asked him to go at once to the spot. As soon as the City Magistrate left me,

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25

me, Mr. Minnice of the Binny Mills came and said that there was much disturbance in the Binny Mills and ~~kxx~~ said in reply to me that there was stone throwing. I told Mr. Minnice that the City Magistrate had gone and that he might go and make sure if the City Magistrate had gone. I also went to the Binny Mills immediately and on entering the Mill, people complained to me that two people had been killed by shots by the Police. I went into the office of the Manager and for a few minutes, got no information as to who fired the shots and what was the exact situation. Mr. Anderton, ~~xxid~~ Reserve Police Inspector then said that Mr. Serle's party had fired the shots and took me towards the Guard Room. There I met Mr. Serle, who informed me that some shots had been fired by him and his party. By making enquiries, I found that the dispute originated in the Mill hands asking for bonus then and there from the Mill Authorities, that the Mill Authorities declined to settle the bonus question at once but wanted information from Madras on the question before announcing a decision. The City Magistrate had also arrived ~~in~~ the spot and Mr. Mahammad Hussain, Assistant Superintendent of Police was also there. I ~~spokk~~ spoke to the members of the crowd to hear their case and to see their temper at the time. I asked people assembled near the Mills to go, except those who had representations to make either about the bonus or the shooting by the Police. The crowd at first said that they could not leave until their gate passes were given by the Mill Authorities as, if they went out without a gate pass, the Mill Authorities would consider that they had left the servide and would not take them back again. I assured the workpeople that as a disturbance had occurred, I was in charge of the situation and that, as they were going only under my orders, their going would not affect their relations with the Mill

15 vb

Mill Authorities. A written order to the Assistant Superintendent of Police on the subject was issued in the presence of the crowd. But the crowd would not move. I assured the crowd that I would stop on the spot and make enquiries as to all their grievances and as to the circumstances of the shooting also, but found, that by this assurance only a few boys went out of the gate. The greater part of the crowd would not move. The Private Secretary to the Dewan, Mr. M.S. Ramachandra Rao kindly called at about this time and assured me that I might summon military assistance if required. As I was at the time not sure of the temper of the mob, I replied that the Military may not be required but that I would summon their assistance, if developments demanded such assistance. I expressed to the Private Secretary to the Dewan my thanks for giving me the assurance about the military help. A little later a telephone message received in the District Office from the Secretariat and redirected to me by the District Sheristedar was received and it said that I might go to the spot and also send the City Magistrate. The District Office Sheristedar had already replied to the Secretary by telephone that I had already left for the spot, and that the City Magistrate had also gone. Before the telephone message was received, I was ¾ of an hour or more in the Mill premises. Some time later the Dewan and the First Member of Council kindly came over to the scene of occurrence. The arrival of the Dewan and the First Member of Council brought all the moral force of Government into the place and no more disturbance was expected after their arrival. The Dewan and the First Member of Council kindly went found the place and saw the bodies of the killed people

people and the people who had been sent to the Mill Hospital for treatment for their wounds. Afterwards the Dewan and the First Member of Council visited the Director Mr. Nuttal who was in his office room afraid to go out on account of the rioters. The Director after some conversation with the Dewan came down and met the people. The people were then assured that their grievances would be enquired into and justice done; consideration of the bonus question was promised. Thereafter the people went away saying that they would go to work next morning as advised.

3. I stayed and made some enquiries into the occurrence of the day and left the Mills leaving the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the City Magistrate on the spot for further necessary action about disposal of dead bodies and removal of injured persons to the Hospital.

4. Next morning I went to the spot. The Inspector-General of Police had gone there together with the Assistant to the Inspector General of Police. Many of the people who had promised to go to work the previous day had not gone inside for work and had thrown stones on the Police Officers near the Mill. They wanted a holiday that day and early settlement of the bonus question. After being promised that they might go to work next day and that the question of bonus would be settled in a few days, the crowd left the place quietly.

5. On the morning of the 22nd instant, Mill hands resumed work. The Dewan kindly visited the Mill on the evening of the 21st and the morning of the 22nd also.

6. As to what occurred in the Mill before I went to the

28

17

spot and as to the circumstances under which Mr. Searle opened fire, a report will be submitted ~~after~~ very early after all the evidence is taken and considered. Two persons died in the Mills on the 20th, two died in the Victoria Hospital that night and two are undergoing treatment for wounds in the Victoria Hospital.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

B Sambasiva Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

48 32

D.O.
No.C.C.26/26
Encl: one

Office of the District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 23rd July 1926.

Received at 9 P.M. 23.7.26.

Dear Sir,

I submit herewith a copy of the report of Mr. Ranga Iyengar, City Magistrate in charge, on the result of the enquiry made by him into the circumstances under which the disturbances occurred in the Binny Mills on the 20th instant. I generally agree with him in his conclusions. In order that the report may be submitted as early as possible, I not only asked Mr.Mahammad Hussain the Assistant Superintendent of Police to hold an enquiry himself into the circumstances but also asked the City Magistrate to hold an investigation of his own and I myself made an enquiry in a summary manner under Section 176 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. It is delay in granting bonus that brought on trouble. Stones were thrown on the Manager's Office before the Reserve Police came on the scene. Mr. Thompson Spinning Room Master heard members of the crowd say that they would kill the Manager Mr.Southwark and the Weaving Master Mr. Bentley as they were unsympathetic. Stones were thrown on the first batch of the Reserve Police under Mr. Anderton when they entered the Mills and they were forced to take shelter in the Manager's room. Some of the Reserve Police men of Mr.Anderton's batch were hurt. As Reserve Police Constable No.134 said, the mob asked the Reserve Police Constables why they had interfered in their affair and began to throw stones on them. The City Police with batons under Mr.Mahammad Hussain were not able to make any impression on the crowd, and had to remain outside the gate. The second batch of

of the Reserve Police that came to the spot and were under Mir Ahmad Hussein Hydari advanced into the Mill with fixed bayonets, but had to retire hurt and in discomfiture, as stones and wooden poles and iron rods were thrown on them. Hydari asked C.I.D. Inspector Mr. Mellor's permission to shoot, but Mr. Mellor wanted the order of a Magistrate and on this ground left the scene and went to the Kengeri Gate Police Station to phone for the Magistrate. Inspector Mr. Anderton had been asked by the Manager of the Mill to open fire, but Mr. Anderton said that a Magistrate's orders were required.

3. Thus Mr. Anderton's party was besieged in the Manager's Office and Hydari's party was besieged in the Guard Room. Then Mr. Serle with the third party of Reserve Policemen came on the scene, Mr. Serle came in khufti in a hurry and at the Kengeri Gate Police Station, was informed by the Station Daffedar that the affair at the Mill was serious. Mr. Serle decided then to take his men with him. Mr. Srinivasavaradachar, C.I.D. Inspector informed Mr. Serle that the situation at the Mill was grave. Mr. Mellor was in the Kengeri Gate Station communicating with the Magistrate to come to the spot in order that orders to fire may be secured from him. Mr. Searle could not enter by the gate in front of the Manager's Office, as there was obstruction to his entry there. He entered by a side gate known as the cattle gate which was opened for him by a Jamadar of the Mills. When Mr. Searle entered with his party, the open space in front of the cattle gate was empty. Mr. Searle's party proceeded with fixed bayonets as soon as they saw a crowd. The crowd had collected in the lane inside between the stone walls and Mr.Searle's party was obstructed from advancing by a shower of stones and

and wooden poles. Reserve Constable No.20 Hussein Beg narrowly escaped being killed along with his companions by a ladder thrown down on the party from above by the mob. Havildar Bala Prasad who was with Mr. Searle had the rifle forced out of his hand by the shower of stones and Casuarina poles. Seeing Mr.Searle's party enter by the side gate, a portion of the crowd from near the Manager's office rushed with Casuarina poles towards the party of Mr. Searle. According to Mr. Anderton, the first effect of the shots was to make the crowd more excited and angry, but when ~~the~~ wounded ~~body~~ person was brought to the Manager's Office for dressing, the crowd had become quieter. Mr. Nuttal observed this settling effect. When Mr. Searle fired, the crowd dispersed and made way for him and his party. But when he was nearing the Guard room, the mob came on in a menacing attitude and Mr. Serle and his party had to face this menacing crowd and walk backwards with their rifles on them.

4. The work people who were examined say that they had no warning and that they were far from Mr.Searle's party. The fact was that the shooting was bad, that it was highly above the heads of the crowd and that by striking against a wall and coming back, people far in the rear were hurt. The technique of the shooting is a matter for investigation and necessary departmental action by the Inspector General of Police. The shooting itself appears to have been necessary and appears to be justified not only under Section 128 of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Circulars thereunder, but also as a matter of self defence as the City Magistrate points out.

5. No doubt when I went to the spot I was received fairly well by the crowd as a Judge and deliverer, but I am not sure what the position would have been if Mr.Serle had not fired. It is difficult to dogmatise about a hypothetical situation. It is possible that if no shots had been fired, my presence may have still pacified the people. It is just as likely however that if Mr. Searle had been overpowered, the crowd would have become still more violent, being more confident of their own power, thereby making a call for Military aid and more drastic measures necessary.

6. It appears that the rioters got a lesson by the firing; and as, unfortunately there has been excess in the firing though in good faith, it is not necessary in my opinion to proceed against the rioters under the sections of the Penal Code. It is believed that the Mill Authorities will gracefully pay compensation to the relatives and dependents of the persons who died or were wounded seriously in the affair.

Yours sincerely,

B. Subba Rao

To

B. Nagappa, Esqr., Bar-at-law,
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Local and Legislative Departments.

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22

REPORT RE: Inquiry held by me as in charge of the City Magistrate regarding the deaths caused by Gun Shot wounds during the disturbances in Binny Mills at Bangalore on the afternoon of 20-7-1926 under Section.176 Criminal Procedure Code (note.W.Witness).

While I was in court trying Cases, I received a Telephone message through the Head Quarter Inspector at about 2-50.P.M. on 20-7-1926, stating that there was much disturbance at the Binny Mills and that my presence was necessary. I interviewed the District Magistrate immediately in his Office and reached the spot within about 10.Minutes. With much difficulty I gained access through the Big North Gate. The crowd which was about 30. Yards from the gate appeared to be defiant in attitude and stones and bricks and rods of iron and casurina poles were scattered on the ground between us and the crowd. The District Magistrate also arrived on the scene within about 10.Minutes of my arrival. We tried to ask the crowd to send some of their Leaders to us to have a talk. A few came forward. We advised that a few Leaders may remain and talk to us and the rest go out of the Mill premises. They said that if they left without gate passes it would be taken as a dis-charge. The District Magistrate gave them an under-taking that it would not be treated as discharge. Still the crowd refused to go out. Eventually the Dewan Saheb arrived from another gate and after good deal of persuasion the crowd left the premises.

I have examined in all 36 Witnesses.

5. Witnesses were examined on the very day (i.e.20-7-26)

after the crowd dispersed. 7. witnesses were examined next i.e., 21-7-1926 and the rest Yesterday i.e., 22-7-1926.

Cause of Disturbance:. It is said to be usual with the Binny Mills to declare a Bonus to the workmen and pay it about a week after their pay for June was disbursed. The pay for June would usually be paid on or about 10th July. So the workmen were eagerly expecting their Bonus about the 17th July 1926. The Manager had not yet received Orders from the Head Office and so he could not comply with the demands of the workmen. Joseph (W.20.) says that at 10-A.M. he and 10. Or 15 men of his Department went and asked his Department Master for Bonus but that the latter drove them away. When the workmen came back after food at about 12. Noon, they refused to go back to work unless their Bonus was paid. The Manager is said to have asked them to give 3 days' time within which to ask the Head Office and if they sanctioned the Bonus to pay it. Joseph as spokesman of the workmen is said to have told the Manager to give him a written agreement stating that he would pay Bonus in 3 days. As the latter refused to give such an undertaking, the workmen refused to work and said they would go away if their dues up to date were settled. The Manager is said to have asked for 5. Minutes ' time but Joseph says that he did not know why he asked for 5. Minutes' time. He says that in the meanwhile he Telephoned and got Reserve Police men. The workmen, ignorant and illeterate as they are seemed to think that because they were paid Bonus in previous Years before a certain date, they had a right to claim it before that date, ~~&h&&&&&d they had a right to claim it before that date.~~ It was naturally difficult to make them understand that Bonus was a Payment which had to be calculated and decided upon by the Directors. It might happen that

24 38

if there was a loss in the working no Bonus might be declared at all. under a/wrong impression the workmen insisted on payment of Bonus and as it could not be paid by the Manager here, they struck work and began to throw stones & etc., against the windows and the roof of the Manager's Office. The Manager Mr. Southworth (W.13) swears that as he was not able to convince the crowd of their unreasonableness, he returned to his Office and even as he did so stones & etc., were pelted on him. He says that after entering the Office the crowd began to throw stones and brickbats and pierce casurina Sticks and Bamboo Poles through the Glass pans of the windows and that several panes were shattered. As he was surrounded by the workmen, he could not communicate with the Authorities or with the Office upstairs except by Telephone. He says that as the danger became more threatening he Telephoned at about 1-45 P.M. to the Inspector-General of Police through the Head Office in the upstairs.

Subsequent Development:- As requisitioned by Mr. Mac. Lead (W.2.) Assistant Manager, a Posse of Reserve Police 26 in number arrived at the North Gate under the command of Mr. Anderton Reserve Police Inspector (W.11.). He swears that though the Manager's Office is only about 100 Yards from the Gate, he reached it with greatest difficulty and under a shower of stones and sticks from the crowd. As he and his party were unable to stand outside and face the as stones and sticks that were falling, they were obliged to enter the Manager's Office and seek shelter there. Even afterwards the pelting of stones and sticks appear to have increased in number and force. It may be noted that lots of stones had been collected in the Mills and also heaps of casurina Sticks for the boiler. These were readily available to the crowd. Mr. Anderton (W.11) swears that about 6 of his men received injuries, being hit by the crowd

on the way to the Manager's Office. This seems to be true for (W.30.) Sadasivan R.C.No.134 has received an injury on the head, Jagannath Naidu (W.31.) R.C. No.129 has received injuries on the arm and head. Syed Mohdeen (W.32.) R. Naik No.15 has received injuries on the head and right cheek. Chowdia (W.34.) R.C.No.94 has a swollen knee and is limping. The seriousness of the situation could be gaged by the fact that the Manager asked Mr. Anderton if he could not fire and that the latter stated that he could not do so without the Magistrates' written Order. Because they were all inside the Office and the crowd dared not enter in but were simply throwing stones & etc., at the Office, the party inside was some-what out of danger. But they could not get out.

Within a short time of the arrival of the Ist Reserve Party, a second party of 9 men headed by Mir. A.H. Haidari (W.6.) arrived also by the North Gate, as a second Telephone had been sent. By this time, the crowd had evidently became more violent. When they had advanced about 50 Yards the Reserve Constables were met with such showers of stones and sticks that they had to retreat and run to the Guard Room and hide themselves there. The crowd dashed and hit at the closed door and the windows of the guard room and did considerable damage. The Leader himself (W.6.) was also hit severely and had to run out of the gate and lie down in the Electric Store House next to the Mills and was there given some water by some one and was attended to there. His men too have received severe injuries Viz., (W.8.) i.e., R.C.No.181 has received an injury on his left eye and (W.9.) i.e., Naik No.65 on the right hip.

Shortly after the 2nd Reserve Party

was thus badly injured and routed and driven away at the North Gate, the Third Reserve Party of 9 men headed by Mr. Searle (W.5.) Assistant Superintendent of Police entered the Mills by what is known as the Cattle Shed Gate behind. They did not know exactly how the first two parties had been dealt with by the crowd. On his way Mr. Searle is said to have been told by the Duffedar at the Kengari Gate Police that his (Reserve) men, who had been sent before were mixed up in the crowd and were being beaten. When he went near the Mills, he says that he was told by Mr. Srinivasa Varadachar, (C.I.D. Inspector.) that the situation was serious, that the Reserve men already sent were being very badly beaten and would probably be murdered and that he was therefore going to inform the Assistant Inspector-General to send some one to give Orders for opening fire. Mr. Searle (W.5.) is fully corroborated on this fact by Mr. C.S. Varadachar (W.36) and by Mr. Mellor (W.35) Assistant Superintendent of Police (Railways and C.I.D.) The latter swears that when he went near the North Gate, he found that a Sergeant and three Constables of Kengeri Gate had been stoned and turned out of the compound. He says that when Mr. Anderton (W.11.) and his party entered the Mills they were badly beaten and hurt by stones and sticks and that the second party under Haidari (W.7.) was dealt with even worsely so much so that they had to retreat in hot haste. He says that he then went to the Kengeri Gate Station and Telephoned to the Head Quarter Inspector, Police Superintendent and others to come to the spot at once and that he also asked the Assistant Inspector-General to send more men. He and Mr. S. Varadachar (W.36) had actually seen how the two Reserve Parties had been dealt with and they conveyed this information to Mr. Searle when they met him. Mr. Searle and his party were therefore naturally alarmed and wanted

to reach the men who had gone in advance and help them as early as possible. When he proceeded with his party he was met with showers of stones and sticks. His fears were therefore confirmed and he was not allowed to proceed. Neither any remonstrances nor any mere ~~promptings~~ pouting of the Gun had any effect. Mr. Searle is said to have fired one shot in the air. This had no effect. The crowd appears to have come nearer continuing the pelting of stones and wood. Bala Prasad Havaldar (W.6.) swears that his Gun fell down being hit by a casurina stick and that he and his men received several blows by stones & etc. He is corroborated by the other men of the party Viz., Witnesses 23 to 29. Mr. Searle swears that when his firing in the air had no effect, the crowd advanced pelting stones and that he was likely to be over poured by them. He says that he could not return as he was anxious about the fate of the Reserve men who had gone in advance, as he had been informed that they had been badly beaten. He says that he therefore ordered the Havildar and 3 men to fire one round on the ground. He says that though he told the men to fire low they fired a bit wildly as they were excited.

No doubt the coolies examined including the 2 injured who are surviving Viz., (W.s. 14 and 16 to 19) and 21 and 22) state that no warning was given by Mr. Mr. Searle or his party before firing. I cannot possibly believe this. Several of them admit that stones were thrown at the party, though they want to make out that it was done by some irresponsible boys and not by elders. I cannot believe this latter allegation. Mr. Searle and his party were going to relieve the former parties who were said to have been beaten and to assist the Manager and his people who had been surrounded by the mob. He only asked the mob not to pelt

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42

stones but they refused to do so and as they came nearer and would probably have overpoured him and his party, he appears to have found it necessary to fire on the crowd. It should be remembered that it was not a crowd of a few hundreds. It was nearly four thousand strong in number. If the firing had been delayed possibly the crowd would have, in their excited state, rushed upon them and snatched their Guns and hammered them to death. We have to place ourselves in that situation and Judge whether there was or was not sufficient necessity to open fire. It was as much a matter of self defence as it was for quelling the disturbance. I believe therefore that Mr. Searle was justified in ordering fire. Under Section. 128 Criminal Procedure Code he as Police Officer was authorised to use force in dispersing the unlawful assembly, and "force" includes firing under special circumstances, though as a last escort. He directed the men to allow him quiet passage at least and to disperse to that extent. But ~~&&~~ by the pelting of stones and sticks and other gestures and expressions, the crowd shewed a determination not to do so. He had therefore no other option but to open fire.

Though Mr. Searle was thus justified in opening fire, Iam afraid it has been overdone to some extent. Mr. Searle says that he ordered only 3 men to fire and that only low. He might have said so and the men might not have heard these specific instructions in the galata. Mr. Searle says that that his men all fired at random in the exitement. The men swear that Mr. Searle simply said " Fire one round " and that accordingly they all fired. Out of (9) men, the Havaldars (W.6.) Gun is said to have not acted. Mr. Searle took a Gun from one of his men (W.29.) and fired. The remaining seven men appear to have fired shots besides Mr. Searle.

If only one shot had been fired, and if the crowd had seen one man falling dead, they would have run away panic stricken and no more shots were necessary. In the exitement of the moment the word ' FIRE ' was taken up by the men and every one fired. Mr. Searle would have done best to have himself fired one shot and seeing its effect fired further shots if necessary. The crowd was at a distance of about 30. Yards and there was sufficient time to judge before firing the next shot. But owing to these several shots two men fell dead on the spot and two others were badly wounded and were removed to the Victoria Hospital in a Motor Ambulance got from Bowring Hospital. These latter were reported to have died in the Hospital on the same night. 2 others who were wounded are yet in the Hospital and appear to be out of danger (W.21. and W.22.). Thus there have been 4 casualities and two badly wounded, besides a few others who received slight injuries. In the noise and tumult and in the pelting of stones and sticks it is no doubt very difficult for even the most cool-headed man to keep a perfect balance of mind and to judge of things calmly. On such occassions some margin has to be allowed for mistakes.

In this connection I should state that the bullets used appear to be very powerful. They had made such terrible and deep holes in the bodies of the dead and bones appeared to have been smashed to pieces. This is not as it should be. The object is only to create fear by causing some injury. Ordinary buck-shots should I believe have been used on the occassion and not such dreadful bullets, Further the shots should have been hit low so as to injure the legs. But it is in evidence that the shots were fired in a parallal line. Some of the men who fired the shots themselves admit this fact, but state that they were

nervous with fear at the time. It is also strange that a man who admits that he does not know how to handle a Gun and had no practice in firing should be entertained as a Reserve Constable Viz., R. Peter (W. 27.) and should have been given a Gun andtaken with a party, who might be called upon to fire. His shot must necessarily have been a random shot. Mr. Searle ought to have given proper directions to his men as to the manner of shooting the crowd and should have acted with a little greater caution.

Though the occurrence took place at about 2-30.P.M., the wounded could not be sent to Hospital till late in the evening. This is because there is said to be no Ambulance Car in the Victoria Hospital. It is regretable that a First Class and fully equipped Hospital like the Victoria Hospital should not possess a Motor Ambulance for the use of such a big place like Bangalore City. The Mill Authorities had to Telephone to the Bowring Hospital ~~Hospital~~ and get their Ambulance for conveying the wounded men and this evidently was the reason for the delay.

The firing had been over and Mr. Searle and his party had retreated to the North Door just before I arrived there. Mr. Searle who was in Civil Dress, told me that he had fired and that two men had been killed. I at first mistook him to be an employee of the Mills but later learnt that he was an Assistant Superintendent of Police . Evidently as stated by him, he thought that he would be losing time if he had to change his dress and so hurried in the dress he was at the time.

On the whole I am of opinion that there were justifying causes for opening fire though so many

shots should not have been fired and that directly in a paralal line so as to hit the trunks and heads of the men in the crowd. Neither the Manager of the Mill nor any of the Reserve Police ~~are~~ able to Name or even identify the persons that threw stones &etc., and caused the injuries and damage. This is but natural. The people generally throw stones etc., from behind the front ~~few lines~~ in the crowd and it is impossible to say who threw them or to remember their features even if thby could be seen. The evidence goes to show that the crowd gradually got more and more excited. The presence of the Reserve Police appears to have increased their wrath. They seem to have got more wild, because the Mill Authorities Telephoned and got the Reserve Men for their help. But there is no knowing what could have happened if the Reserve Men had not appeared in time.

B Manja Iyengar

SPECIAL FIRST GRADE MAGISTRATE
B A N G A L O R E,
(in Charge)
City Magistrate,
BANGALORE CITY.

BANGALORE:
23-7-26

-: o :-

CONFIDENTIAL.

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. C 163/26.

Bangalore, 24th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your D.O.No. 244/ C.B. dated the 22nd instant, I write to inform you that buck-shot cannot be fired from .303 rifles.

I have explained this to the Dewan.

I may add that if buck-shot had been fired from a larger bore rifle, or gun at the short range the firing took place at, the casualities would have been far more.

Yours Sincerely,

To

B. Nagappa, Esquire, Bar-at-Law,
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Local and Legislative Departments, Bangalore.

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D.O.

No. C.C.26/26 (5)

Encl: one file

Office of the District Magistrate,

Bangalore District,

Dated, Bangalore, the 26th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

I am submitting herewith as desired, copies of the statements recorded by the City Magistrate Mr. Ranga Iyengar in the Mill Disturbance case. I am submitting also a copy of the rough notes jotted down by me during my summary enquiry into the Mill Disturbance.

will follow

2. I may perhaps add here a few incidents that occurred during the disturbance to throw light on what really happened. Mr. Mahammad Hussain had to threaten to shoot the constables of the City in order to prevent them from running away. I am not saying this to punish the constables but to show the gravity of the affair. When I went to the spot Mr. Mahammad Hussain said that the ring leaders should be arrested. Mr. Searle said that the temper of the mob would not stand it and that there was not enough force to arrest the ring leaders on the spot. I thought that Mr. Searle's judgment on the point was sound and informed Mr. Mahammad Hussein accordingly. There is thus no foundation for the suspicion that Mr. Searle was not quite cool and deliberate at the time.

3. As regards the point that the Police did not show their injuries etc., at the spot at the time when the Dewan came, it was rather an inopportune time to force the Police aspect of the case to the front, as the occasion required pacification of the crowd. Moreover, as the injured Policemen were required for duty, they did not want to report sickness and take leave. As an enquiry was going to be held, the evidence of the police was expected to come out in the enquiry.

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4. As regards the point that Mr. Searle was not in his uniform, Mr. Searle was not really mistaken for a mill officer, as a portion of the mob that was near the Manager's office moved on to meet Mr. Searle, after seeing his entry. Also Mr. Anderton was charged by the mob with having sent police officers in the rear to shoot them. They would not have made this charge, if they had taken Mr. Searle for a mill officer. Mill officers must have been well known to the mill hands.

Yours sincerely,

To

K. Chandy, Esqr., B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

35 47

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of James Nuttall 1st witness.

Age 36

Father's name John Nuttall

Nationality European

Occupation Merchant

Residence Bangalore.

Duly sworn:- At about 12-30 P.M. (noon) today, the work people refused to return to work unless they were told, when the bonus ~~of~~ the last half year, would be paid. They were advised that our decision as to whether a bonus would be paid if so, when would be ~~paid~~ given in a few days. They did not return to work. They collected in a body outside the Manager's Office and began to stone the windows. We then telephoned on our private line from the Mill to ~~the~~ Binny's Office asking them to communicate the situation to the Police. The first I saw the Special Reserve Police was when they came to the Manager's Office building and as they entered they were stoned and a number of themen were hurt. I cannot identify any of the workmen who stoned the windows etc.. or who stoned any of the Reserve Police. The first I saw an injured person was as he was brought past the Manager's office. He was taken from the Office to the Dispensary. I am not sure if he was brought into the Manager's Office. The Doctor reported to me later that two men had been killed and 3 others injured. We again telephoned to our office to send for the Ambulance, which arrived later. The injured men were attended by our doctor. He told me afterwards that they were removed to the Hospital. I do not know how the two men died or the others were injured. I did not hear any shots . This may be due to the noise outside, if really the shots were fired. I did not witness any shooting. I was in the Manager's office all the while till about 4-30 or 5 P.M. So I could not see how the deaths or injuries were inflicted. I am the Representative of the Managing Agents of this Mill. I have been here only since 21st June 1926.

City Magistrate

R.O. & A. C.

Sd/-.B.Ranga Iyengar.

20-7-26

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IN THE COURT OF THE CITY MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE.

Deposition of	A. Mc.Leod 2nd witness.
Age	28
Father's name	D. Mc.Leod
Occupation	Assistant Manager, Binny Co.,
Residence	Bangalore.

~~Exlyxxxxxxxx~~- On Affirmation:- ~~At~~ About 1 P.M. I received a message from Mr. J. Nuttal to telephone to the Police that there was disturbance in the mill and that Police help should be sent. I telephoned to the Office of the I.G. of Police . I had some difficulty in making him understand but with ~~the~~ help of one of the office clerks, we made the message clear. We confirmed it immediately by a letter and when our bearer arrived at the I.G's Office, he was informed that the Reserve Police had already been sent. I did not see any of the disturbances and I did not see the Police arrive. I do not know how the two men have died and others injured. I was all the while in the office.

R. O. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

City Magistrate
Bangalore

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IN THE CITY MAGISTRATE 's COURT AT BANGALORE.

3rd Witness Sundaram, Assistant Duffedar, Binny Mills.

Age 36.

Caste Pariya

Father's name Doresamy.

On Affirmation:- This morning at about 12 noon I was taking food in my house. I heard hard shouting of our mill people. I ran out and met some mill coolies who told me that the men in the mill were whistling and shouting. I suspected some trouble and came to the East Gate of the mill. Mr. Williams, Assistant Building Engineer came there just then. As soon as he came the coolies took stones and sticks and threw over him. He then went to the mian gate as the east gate was closed. He came by motor cycle. I followed him on foot. I asked Rangasamy Assistant duffedar at the main gate what the matter was. He told me that there was some trouble owing to Bonus, and that there was a large crowd. Then I went to the Manager's office. I found nearly 3000 men, women and children collected. The Mill Manager Mr. F.Southwards, Mr. Nuttall and Mr. Murgesam, Mr. Tait and others were pacifying the workmen and advising them to go to work today and that they would write to Madras to the Director about the Bonus and let them know. Within 10 minutes some of the crowd began to throw stones on the roofing. I cannot identify them. I cannot also identify the coolies who previously threw stones and sticks at Mr. Williams. I saw the Reserve Police with rifles coming and told the Manager that they had come into the mills. As they entered the throwing of stones against the Reserve Police increased very much. A stone hit on my forehead. I sat down on a chair in the time office. I was treated. After 5 minutes I went on petrol. The shouting continued. Then the City Police came. The coolies went in front of them. I do not know what happened. I heard subsequently that 2 men were dead and 4 injured. I was petrolling near the Manager's Office. I locked the warehouse and Cotton -Godown as directed by the Manager.

R. O. & A. C.
Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,
Incharge City Magistrate.

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In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Witness No.4.

Name. Rangasamy.
Age. 46.
Father's name. Ayyam Perumal.
Caste. Paria.
~~Xgdx~~
Occupation. Assistant Darfedar.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation:-- I was on duty at the main gate of the Binny Mills. As usual the coolies went into the Mills at 12-10 and 12-25 noon and stood there. I heard shouting at about 1 P.M. The crowd outside the gate asked me what the galata was. I told them that the workmen were asking for Bonus and that there was nothing particular and asked them to go away. The crowd did not go away. Sundaram Assistant Durfedar came and asked what the matter was. I replied similarly and sent him in. The Manager sent word to me to let in the Reserve Police if they arrived. Reserve Police arrived at about 2-15 or 2-20 P.M. I allowed them into the Mills. It was the first party and was led by the dressed European Police Inspector. When the party went near the Manager's Office the shouting increased. Hearing these shouts, the crowd outside the gate began to shout. Shortly after the 1st Reserve Police Party arrived the 2nd Party arrived. I did not observe who led it. They went about 30 yards inside the gate. The coolies inside shouted out again. The coolies hurled stones, casurina poles, iron bolts &c., on the 2nd party. The coolies closed up the 2nd Reserve Party. One of the Reserve Police was hurt on the face. This was a small party. I sent them inside the Main Gate guard room as the coolies were army in number and the Police might receive injuries. When I sent the Police inside and turned back, the coolies took me to task for protecting the Police and threw stones &c., against me. I received blows on my head, and I fell down. I received no injuries. Some coolies advised me to go away from there. I went away to the dye room.

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room. The coolies rushed into the guard room and damaged the bulbs, notice boards &c., At 3-30 P.M. I got a little better and came near the gate. The officers had collected and were making enquiries. I did not hear any revolver shots as I had been beaten and felt giddy. I do not know what happened inside.

R.O. & A.C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,

In Charge City Magistrate.

" Copy "

City Magistrate
Incharge

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In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Witness No.5.

Deposition of Henry George Searle.

Age 51.

Father's name. Henry.

Nationality. European.

Occupation. Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Residence. Bangalore.

On Solemn affirmation:--

As I was on my way to office at about 2 P.M. I met one of my men who gave me a chit from the Assistant to the Inspector General of Police which stated "trouble anticipated come and see me as soon as possible and are your men in readiness." On arrival I saw that Officer. He told me that he had sent Inspector Anderton with men to Binny's Mills on receiving a telephone message. He also told me to get as many of the reserve men as I could get and go to the Mills and see what was the matter and send him detailed information. I told him that I was in mufti. He told me that it did not matter as it was urgent. I came with my men with intentions of leaving them at Kengeri Gate Station. I had 9 men with me. On arrival at Kengeri Gate Station the Daffedar told me that there was tremendous trouble at the Mills and that the men who had already been sent were all inside the mills mixed up with the Coolies and were being beaten. So I decided to bring the 9 men with me. On arrival at the West Gate, the watchman told me that I should come by the main gate, But the Jamadar who was at some distance told the watchman that he might allow us to go by the west gate. I asked the watchman what was wrong and where the Reserve men previously sent were. The watchman told me that the Reserve men had all been

been locked up in the office with the European employees. I came inside the gate to the narrow lane to my right. I turned up that. No sooner had we gone into the lane we were met with a shower of stones. There were then about 200 or 300 people all throwing stones at us. I advanced about 20 paces, told my men to fix bayonets and called out to the crowd to stop throwing stones. The Havildar with me also shouted likewise. We advanced a short distance. The crowd in front increased by people bringing stones and casuarina poles and advanced towards us. They began ~~xxxxxxx~~ threwing these at us. Several stones hit me and my men. One casuarina pole struck a rifle of one of my men. I again called out that if they did not go away I would fire. My men and the Sargeant also shouted likewise in Camarese and tamil. I tried to advance but the crowd were throwing stones and poles. I told them again that if they did not go I would fire. I spoke in broken tamil. The crowd started to jeer and pelted us with stones and poles. By ~~this~~ this time my men wanted to fire. But I restrained them. I told the Havildar to tell the men that if they did not disperse, I was going to fire this time as we could not advance. The crowd took no notice and threw stones and poles at us. I then took a rifle from one of the men and pointed it at the crowd thinking that this would frighten them and that they would run away. The crowd again began throwing stones and sticks which other people were bringing and giving to them. Seeing that the crowd was not to be intimidated or frightened, I fired one shot over their head. When I did this they began to advance on us. Seeing that I was likely to be over poured and I could not retire, as I was anxious about the Reserve men, who were already inside and as I had been informed that they had been beaten, I told the Havildar and 3 men to fire one round on the ground. After this the crowd dispersed in 2 different directions. I moved on

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on hurriedly with my men and did not know where to go as ~~was told that~~ I met no one who could direct me to the Office. I eventually came to the road by the side of the office. There was a large crowd there. I moved on. The crowd disappeared by the side roads. I moved on to the front gate. After passing the last cross road the crowd came behind me and commenced to pelt us with bricks stones and casuarina poles. I ordered my men to turn round and face the crowd and retire step by step. I called out to the crowd to stop pelting us. Eventually we reached the main gate guard room. I drew my men across the road and told the havildar to thus tell the crowd to keep at a distance. On arrival at the guard room, I asked where the Reserve men previously sent were. I was informed by some one that the Havildar and his party of 10 men had been assaulted and badly injured and had been sent out of the front gate. I was keeping the crow back when the A.S.P. arrived. 2 men are lying dead owing to the shots we fired in the lane. I cannot say who fired the shots which killed the 2 men. I told my men to fire low. The men fired a bit wildly as they were excited. A bullet striking the ground and richocheting (rebounding) causes a worse injury than a direct hit. The wounds on the deceased could have been caused by such rebounding. One of the shots of my men struck an upright piece of wood on a bullock cart which was standing there. 9 gun shots were actually fired at the crowd. I only fired one shot over the head of the crowd as a warning at the outset. The remaining shots were fired by my men. Our rifles are .303 with pointed bullets. On arrival at the main gate I told a watchman to go and inform the manager that 2 people were lying there wounded and to arrange to send for an ambulance. I did not know

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know then that any were dead. Even after the City A.S.P. came the crowd still continued to throw stones and iron bars and pieces of cassurina. He gave them several warnings to cease throwing stones. Meantime the Magistrate arrived. As I came near the West Gate at the outset, I met Inspector Srinivasa Varada Char. He told me that he was going to the Office to inform the A.I.G. about the seriousness of the situation and informed me that the reserve men already there were being very badly beaten and would probably be murdered and somebody should be there to give the order to fire. I received stone blows on my body. I received no injuries. My reserve men were also struck with stones and sticks but they too were not injured.

R. O. & A. C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,

In Charge City Magistrate.

City Magistrate
in charge

36 44 56

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Balaprasad 6th witness.

Age 52

Father's name Devadarprasad has

Caste. Gowda Brahmin

Occupation. Reserve Police Havaldar No.3.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

Our Superintendant Mr.Searle directed me yesterday at about 2 P.M. to take 8 reserve men and be ready at the Kengary Gate Station. By the time we went there, Mr. Searle also arrived. The Sergeant at the Kengeri Gate Station said that all the reserve police had been beaten down ( ). Then we marched to the Mills and entered by the East Gate. After we had passed about 1½ furlongs from the gate, the mill coolies threw stones and bricks and sticks (Survey) at us. They were then at a distance of ½ a furlong from us. The stones &c., fell down on the ground. Our Saheb stood and told the men not to throw brickbats and that we had not come to injure them. He said so in 'Hindustani and Aravi'. I too advised the crowd very much. The crowd suddenly attacked us The Saheb took a rifle from one of our men and shewed it to the crowd saying that he would fire. The crowd was about 60 yards from us then. The crowd began to throw more stones &c., at us. Again we advised them and they did not listen. The Saheb then told one Havildar and 3 men to fire. In that galata 5 or 6 men fired. Then the crowd began to run. The crowd was at a distance of about 60 yards (from here ~~it~~ gaurd room to the compound wall and gate in front). I did not fire my gun. I drew the trigger to fire but as I had not opened the lid it did not act. I think Constables Nos. 32, 50, 63, 128 & some others fired the gun. They fired at a parallel line against the crowd. We advanced about a furlong. The crowd from behind again began to throw stones etc. We turned round and and faced the crowed and began to go back wards. The crowd continued stoning. When we arrived atthe ~~north~~ gate the Magistrate arrived. After we reached the north gate, the 1st party of Reserve Police

4537 57

Police came from the side of the Mill and helped us. None of our party was wounded. But some of us received blows. My gun fell down as a survey stick was thrown at us. I do not know why the crowd threw stones etc., against us. I did not notice any person falling down after he was fired. I heard the cry of a man crying out 'Ayyo' & Ayyo' after the fire.

Q. Why did you not retrace your steps?

A. The Saheb did not give us orders to do so. Mr. Searle also fire fired a shot. It did not hit any one. He must have fired high. He and other reserve men each fired only one shot. I think in all 6 or 7 shots were fired.

R.O & T. & A.C.

Sd. B.Ranga Iyengar.

38 58
46

In the court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Mir Ahamed Hussain Haidri, 7th witness.

Age . 29

Father's name. Mir R.H.Haidri.

Caste. Persian

Occupation. Havaldar No.1

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

Yesterday (20-7-26) at about 12.30 noon a reserve party was marched from the Reserve line. They were 30 in number and was led by our Inspector, whose name I do not know. Orderly Havaldar Balaprasad told me at bout 1.30 P.M., to take 9 constables with me and go to the Mills. Immediately we ran to the mills and entered by the big norther Gate. When we went 50 yards stones and survey sticks were hurled at us by the coolies inside. We told them not to beat us and that we had come to help them. They told us to go out of the gate and advanced towards us throwing stones and aticks. The 9 men went near the gaurd room and the watchman sent them inside the room for protection. I got struck up at the big gate. I opened the gate and went out. When I was going backwards telling the crowd not to hit, a stone came and hit me on my right cheek and injured me. A ~~camarina~~ Casuarina stick came and fell on ~~kkm~~ my right hand forefinger. An iron rod fell on my left ankle joint. Besides these stones fell on my body. Being unable to bear I went outside. I became very weak and was sleeping in the Electric office close by. The Officer there brought some water and poured it in my mouth. After I got a little better. I came and joined our party who were standing near the gate. Shamprasad (No.181) has received an injury on his right brow. Rangaswamy (No.65) received a blow on his hip with a stick and is unable to walk freely. No gun shots were heard till then. We did not meet the first Reserve Party till about 7.30 P.M., when we all collected together. When I returned from the

59

4739

the Electric office room, I found that some men of Mr. Searle's party were standing with men of our party. When I was in the Electric office room I heard some gun shots.

R.O. & A.O.

Sd/- B.Ranga Iyengar.

49 60

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Sham Prasad, 8th witness.

Age. 22

Caste. Gowda Brahmin

Father's name. ~~Vardanar~~ Vasudeva Prasad

Occupation. Reserve Police Constable No.181

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

When we entered the big north gate stones and sticks etc., were thrown over us by the coolies ~~under~~ inside. They continued throwing though we told them that we had not come to beat them. They came rushing and attacking us. We 9 people ran into the guard room shut the door. Our Havaldar ran outside the gate. I received a blow from a stone just over the left eye and am injured. My coat and trousers are stained with blood. The crowd hit stones on the windows and doors ~~door~~ of the guard room and asked us to open the door. We refused. A little later the crowd had gone away to the west of the guard room. The Police Superintendant had arrived. We then opened the door and went near the big north gate. There we were again met with stones. We were advising the crowd not th throw them. By that time Mr. Searle and his party came. Even then the crowd were throwing stones. We were standing with fixed Byonets. Then the City Magistrate came. I did not hear any gun shots.

R.O.& J.& A.C.

Sd/- B.Ranga Iyengar,

In charge City Magistrate.

61

41

69

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Rangaswamy 9th witness.

Age. 43

Father's Name. Turakam.

Caste. Hindu

Occupation. Reserve Police Naik No.65.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

I belong to the 2nd Reserve party that arrived at the Mills headed by Haidri. After we entered the gate the coolies collected inside, hurled stones sticks etc., at us. Though we told them that we would not injure them but would go in simply, they did not listen. They came to attack us with stones, sticks and iron bars. When I got up the steps of the guard one man hit me with a survey stick on my right hip. It has bled and my trouser is -- strained with blood. I cannot identify the man who hit me as there was a big crowd. We then entered the guard room and took shelter there and shut the door. We did not hear any gun shots. The crowd hit the doors and windows with stones and asked 2 or 3 watch men who were inside to send us out. After some time the crowd at the door disappeared and we came out.

R.O.& I & A.C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,

in charge City Magistrate.

City Magistrate

42 62

50

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

On affirmation

Munisami 10th witness.

Age 30

Father's name Narasaiah.

Caste Naidu

Occupation Reserve Constable No. 66

Residence Bangalore.

Mr. Searle and Havaldar Balaprasad took me and about 7 other men to Kengarigate station. Some sergeant who was there told us that there was great galata and that Reserve men had been beaten. I do not know who the sergeant who told me so. I cannot identify him too. We then marched headed by Mr. Searle. We entered the mills by the cattle shed gate. When we had passed about a furlong and turned to a lane , the coolies began to pelt stones and sticks against us. Our saheb told the men not to make galata and not to throw stones etc.. and that he would make enquiries . He said so both in 'Arava' and 'Hindustani' ( ) Stone etc.. fell over Mr. Searle and over us. None of our men received any injuries. Our Havildar folded his hands and begged the crowd to keep quiet and not to throw stones. The crowd did not heed. Mr. Searle then took a rifle from one of our men and pointed it to the crowd who were at a distance of about 50 yards. The crowd again threw stones . Mr. Searle then fired a gun to the air. Still the crowd did not go. It increased and more stones etc.. were pelted. Then Mr. Searle said to us 'Fire'. I fired a shot. Seven or eight other men who were with me also fired shots. The crowd were at a distance of about 30 yards from us when we fired (that is, equal to from the Guard room to the gate in front) . We all fired upwards at an angle of about 60 degrees. I do not know if my shot hit any one. I did not see if the shots of any one else too hit any one. I did not see any one fall down or hurt. We advanced about a furlong after the firing.

The crowd surrounded us and later dispersed. We then came near the North gate. When we fired the crowd went back some distance and made way for our advance. After the galata was over we ~~xxnk~~ met some men of the first and second parties near the gate.

R. O. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

52 64

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

44

G.V.M. Anderton , 11th witness.

Age 42

Father's name George Albert

Caste European

Occupation Inspector, Reserve Police,

Residence Bangalore city.

Duly sworn:- I received orders by the Assistant Inspector General of Police between 1-30 P.M. and 1-45 P.M. yesterday asking me how many men I could have in readiness. I went to the Reserve Lines and paraded all the men I could get. It totalled up to 30. I went to the A.I.G's Office and reported this to him. He told me to go with 25 men to Binny's mills. He asked me if I knew instructions. I said 'yes; I should not fire unless I got written instructions from the magistrate'. Then he told me to march the party. We ie myself and 26 men proceeded to the mills. On arriving at the mills I got the big North gate opened and marched through leading the men towards the Manager's Office to try and obtain further instructions. When I was half way between the North gate and the Manager's Office I and my party were pelted with stones from a gang which was in front of us. But I managed to turn the left and get into the Manager's office, where all the Europeans were. I saw the Manager and he asked me if I could not fire to disperse the crowd which was thronged outside the Manager's office and the road leading towards the North Gate. I informed the Manager that I could not fire unless I received written orders from the magistrate. I asked him if a magistrate was present. He said that he did not know. He then showed me a man in civilian clothes and asked me if he was a magistrate. I informed him that he was only an Inspector in the C.I.D. he asked me if I could get a magistrate on the phone. I told him that the A. I. G. was on the phone informing the magistrate about the trouble. I then came to the veranda and spoke to one of the agitators who is called Joseph and who was spokesman for the crowd and tried to explain to him through the

Manager about the

the Manager about the Bonus which they should have got on the 17th instant. The Manager said that he had to get orders from the Head Director in Madras after the accounts were audited re:the bonus. Joseph could not believe it but wanted it in writing. The Manager said he could not give it in writing as he was not sure when he would get a reply. He said he was sure he would get a reply in 3 days and could not say what the bonus would be. Then the District Magistrate arrived in the Manager's office and asked me who the Manager was. He took him to a side and talked to him. I brought four men with me ~~xxxxx~~ escorting the District Magistrate up to the North Gate and left the rest in the Manager's office guarding the Europeans there. When the Manager asked me if I could not fire, the crowd were throwing stones at the windows of the Manager's office. The crowd were just off the veranda. In my presence some of the glass window panes of the office were broken being hit with stones by the crowd. Just before getting into the Manager's office some of the men got some wounds by the stones which were thrown and they were also beaten with bamboo poles across the back and head and kasaerena sticks were also thrown. About 6 of my men were injured. Of these 3 were dressed in the mill dispensary. They were bleeding. They are Nos: 15, 129, and 134. Some time after I went to the District Magistrate to the North Gate, the Director of Industries and the Dewan arrived. I did not hear any gun shots.

R. O. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

54 46 66

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

P. Sreenivasa Rao,	12 th witness.
Age	61.
Father's name	Venkatramaiah.
Caste	Hindu Bramhin.
Occupation	Mill doctor.
Residence	Bangalore city.

On affirmation:- Having received information that several persons were hurt or injured and some with gun shot wounds at about 2 P.M. yesterday I went to see them. I saw one man dead, on the spot lying to the east of the Cutting Department. His name is Kempaiah aged about 32, caste Hindu, male (S.S. Department No. 64). All the bones of the back side skull had been shattered exposing the brain matter. I then saw a man Gangaiah about to die and lying just near the milling department. He was just gasping and died a few minutes after. He had a lacerated wound on the right thigh in front about half foot about the knee, 3½ inches in circumference. All the soft structures had been destroyed and the edges of the wound were in tags. Gangaih was aged about 18, Hindu. I then saw Gopal (of cotton weaving No.178) in the inpatient hospital. He had a gaping wound above the umbelicus with Prolapsus of the intestines. This man was sent to Victoria Hospital after first aid treatment. Then I saw one Ramaswamy also in the inpatient hospital agedabout 30, Hindu by caste. He had a gun shot wound on the left side abdomen near the spleen. He was also sent to the VictoriaHospital. Munisami aged 35, Hindu (Department Draining No. 67) who was brought to the dispensary had a gun shot wound on the nape of the neck, entrance being on the left side of the neck and exit on the right side affecting the soft tissues the distance between the entrance and the exit being about 3½ inches. One Chenna Pillay aged about 17, Hindu (New Spinning No.626) was also brought to my hospital. He had a gun shot wound of a tunnel nature on the left hip affecting the soft tissues the

55-47 67

length of the entrance wound was 1" long ¾" broad and ½" deep, exit a gaping wound 2" long 1¼ " at the broadest portion and ½ " deep. The skin between was covered forming a bridge over the tunnel under--neath. He was also sent to the Victoria Hospital. I learnt that Gopal and Ramasamy died in the Victoria Hospital last night. The crowd ie coolies yesterday were running up and down with sticks and stones and were throwing them with any body and every body. Hearing that the Reserve Police were coming 200 or 300 men were running by the side of the dispensary. A few minutes later they turned back and began to pelt stones at the hospital. Several glass panes and wire nets are broken and torn. The D.M. O was present when the last were being examined and treated.

R. O. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

21-7-26.

48 68

IN THE COURT OF THE IST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE: 58

DEPOSITION:

Age: 45 Years (12) Witness

Caste: Englishman

Father's Name. J. Southworth

Occupation. Manager, Benny Mills.

Residence. Bangalore.

At about 12-30 noon the Duffedar came to my Bungalow, where I was on Office duty, and told me that the work people were giving trouble and refusing to work. I came to the Mill and met Mr. Nuttall the Agent just leaving the work people after duscussion. Mr. Nuttall said to me that he ~~would~~ had told them that he would send a Telegram to Madras Office and get information regarding the Bonus. He told me that the workmen refused this offer. I suggested that we went back and tried again. We did so. We asked for Representatives to be sent from the work people so that we might explain the situation fully to them. This was refused and we were told that nothing but a definite statement that the Bonus would be paid at a certain time would satisfy them. We found that our arguments had no influence on them and so we returned to my Office. Even as we turned from them, stones began to be thrown at us. When we reached my Office, the stoning became more pronounced. The work people armed themselves with causurina wood which had been stocked near the Boiler house and long bamboos from our Stores. They thrust the long posts through the Glass windows of the Office. Some Glass windows were broken by stones and some by thrusting poles. The danger became more threatening and we Telephoned at about 1-45.P.M. to the Police through our Head Office asking for the Reserve Police to come. Stone throwing continued. We had closed the

4969

Western Door of the Office but the Southern Door we left open. About an hour after Telephoning, about 25 Reserve Police arrived and were pelted with stones as they entered my Office. A short time after they came in we heard that some of the Coolies had been shot. One of the wounded men was brought near the Southern Door of my Office and we dressed his wounds. The excitement began to subside about the time of the shooting. I did not hear the Gun-shots. The Reserved Police entered by the South door into our Office. As the coolies were throwing stones at them and as they could not use force and retaliate without the Magistrate's Orders they came into the Office Room. Even after the arrival of the Reserve the crowd was just as boistorous as before and shewed no respect to the Reserve Police. The crowd continued to throw stones at the Office even after the Reserve Police arrived. Before the arrival of the Ist Batch of Police, we Telephoned again at about 2-15.P.M. to the Head Office asking for the despatch of the Police to be urged. We Telephoned to the Ambulance and 2 of the wounded were removed to the Hospital. Two were killed outright and 4 wounded. Of these 2 were sent to the Victoria Hospital between 4 and 30 and 5 P.M, through the Ambulance (Motor) was received from Bowring's Hospital. The crowd did not enter into my Office. When Mr. Nuttall and I first spoke to the workmen, we asked them to await a reply to our Telegram to Madras or alternately to leave the Mill premises. The workmen did not go back to work nor did they leave the Mill. Though the Southern door was open the crowd did not get into the Office. They were throwing stones. Some of the Office Staff and Europeans had collected in my Office before the Reserve Police arrived. The crowd had also attacked the Mill dispensary. I am told that they would have attacked the Doctor but for the arrival of the Reserve Police. The Deputy Commissioner arrived some time after the wounded man was brought to our door.

5-6 5⁰ 60

(13) th Witness
Continued:

Thereupon the galata subsided slowly.

R.O. & A.C,
Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, ~~esq.~~,
~~B.A.B.L.~~,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore.
(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
Bangalore.

Dated: 22-7-1926:

Later: recalled and further examined on Affirmation. Neither I nor any of my Office men are able to name or identify any of the men that threw stones and sticks at our Office. These are thrown generally from some distance and one cannot see who threw them in the crowd.

R.O. & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, ~~esq.~~,
~~B.A.B.L.~~,
Special First Grade
~~A. City~~ Magistrate, Bangalore.

Dated: 22-7-1926:

-: 0 :-

City Asst Magistrate
(in Charge)
First class Magistrate,
Bangalore.

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(14)th Witness:

Age: 36 Years

Caste: Lingayet

Father's Name: Niya Lingaya

Occupation: Weaving Maistry

Residence: Bangalore:

Rachappa: On Affirmation:

As directed by my Master Mr. A. Cotton, I locked my Department as there was galata outside. He told me to lock and stand outside till the galata was over. This was at about 1-30-P.M. There was no galata at the place where I was. At about 2-30.P.M. or 2.45. P.M. the Reserve Police came with a European in white dress. Some little boys began to throw stones at them. The stones did not fall on them as they were at some distance. We threatened the boys to go away. They went away. 10. or 15. people who were workers in my Department were standing in front of the door of our i.e., Woolen Department. The European in white dress then fired without any cause or warning. A boy who is Nephew of one ~~Banappa~~ Bairappa was standing by my side. The shot bit that boy on the thigh. As soon as the boy was hit, he bled profusely and the people got afraid began to run to a side. The boy ran some distance and fell down. The Boy was just on my left side when he was hit. It was the shot of the Gun fired by the European in white dress that hit the boy. Another boy who came to the pipe and drank water and was returning was also hit by a shot on the back of the head. As he was came across, he was hit by the shot. He fell down dead just in front of our door. It was the same European whose shot hit this boy also. I saw him fire the 2 shots noted above. I did not see any of the Reserve Police Fire. After the 2 shots were fired I got terribly afraid I ran and stood by the side of the water tap. I there saw another boy

(14) th Witness
Continued: (2)

60
152 12

who was hit on the Stomach came and fall in front of me. I did not see by whose shot he was hit. After 5 or 6 shots were fired the Reserve Police advanced. The European and the Reserve Police were about 50. Yards from where we were standing. Neither the European nor any of the Reserve Police gave any warning to us that they would shoot. The Reserve Police were about 30. or 35 Yards away from the people. There were 30. or 35 people there. It is true that some boys threw some stones at the Reserve Police. The European then pointed his Gun. The other Reserve were standing quiet. When the European first pointed the Gun the boys did not move. The European and the Reserve men came a little forward. The European again pointed the Gun and immediately fired. When the Gun was pointed the boys ran away.

R.O.I. & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar.,
B.A.B.L.,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore:

DATED: 22-7-1926:

(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
B A N G A L O R E:

-: 0 :-

(in Charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

IN THE COURT OF THE IST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE

DEPOSITION:

(15)th Witness:

Age: 60. Years

Caste. Vokkaliga

Father's Name. Eranna

Occupation: Machanic Fitters.

Residence: Bangalore:

Chikkanna: On Affirmation.

At about 3.P.M. I was sitting in the Cake Shop along with some others. We heard a Gun Shot, then being afraid we ran towards the Old Mill and stood there. When going I saw some Reserve Police going towards the Front Gate.

R.M. & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Oyengar, ~~and~~,
B.A.B.L.,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore:

DATED: 22-7-1926:

(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
B A N G A L O P E

(in Charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore:

62/54 (74

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(16)th Witness;

Name: Hanumayya

Age: 40. Years

Father's Name. Papanna
Caste: Madiga

Occupation. Kambli Department ; Woolen Weaver

Residence: Bangalore.

Hanumayya: On Affirmation:-

At 2. or 2-30. P.M. when we were in our room our Master said that there was galata outside and asked us to come out. We came out and the watchman locked the door. 5 or 6 of us were sitting at the door. 7 or 8 Sepoys and the Dorai in white came by the Society Gate. Some 4 or 5 boys began to pelt stones at them. We advised the boys not to do so. The boys ran away. Then the Dorai snatched a Gun from one of his men and fired at the men who were standing in front. When the boys had just thrown stones and were running away, the Dorai fired. But the boys ran to a side and escaped the shots. The shots hit the men who were in front. The Dorai fired 3 shots. The first shot hit a boy who drank water at the tap and came and stood in the way. The shot hit the boy's thigh and he bled profusely. We all ran to some distance. The Dorai again fired a shot. It hit a watchman Babu on his cheek and another man on the back of his head. The latter fell down. Then we ran away. I saw the Dorai fire 2 shots. I heard a third shot and I thought he must have fired it. I did not see the shot or whom it hit. None of the Reserve Police fired in my presence. When the first shot was fired it hit 2. men and then it hit me slightly on my left buttocks and I received a slight injury. The

55/75

16th Witness
Continued:

63

The Doctor treated me and applied Medicine. The stones thrown by the boys did not fall on the Dorai or Reserve man. They might have thrown 4 or 5 stones of the size of a lemon or so. I cannot name nor identify the boys that threw stones at the Reserve Police. How can I say in the galata. The Dorai fired from a distance of about 30. Yards from where the people were. The Dorai gave no warning before shooting. He did not say anything. The Reserve Police too did not say anything.

R.O.I. & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, ~~esq.~~,
B.A.B.L.,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore.

DATED:22-7-1926:

(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate
BANGALORE:

-: 0 :-

(in charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore:

56(76

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore. 64

17th witness Kruss.

Age	54
Father's name	Arogyam
Caste	Christian
Occupation	Woollen weaving.
Residence	Bangalore.

On affirmation

We returned for work at 12 noon. There was galata. We stopped at the Woollen Weaving Gate as our master Mr. Lotton advised us not to go as there was much galata and said that we might go later. We were sitting near our weaving gate. When we were sitting, the Reserve Police and the Dorai came from the cattle shed gate. Some boys came running calling out ' The Police are coming, police are coming. ' We sent away the boys. Then the dorai lifted his rifle to fire on the men that were infront. Watchman Mari came there and told the Dorai not to fire. Then watchman Ismail came running. He too advised the Dorai not to fire as there were little children and others. The Dorai did not heed but fired. Myself and Rachappa were standing at the door. A boy just drank water at the tap and returned. The shot fired by the Dorai hit the boy in the thigh. The latter ran near the boiler room and fell down. Then we all ran away. The Dorai perhaps thought that the men standing in front were the cause of the galata and fired. They did not throw stones etcaa. at them. The Dorai shot from about a distance of about 60 yards and more from the people. There were no men in the middle. None of the boys threw any stones at the Resd Police. I saw only one shot fired by the Dorai. As I ran away after-wards, I do not know what happened subsequently.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate

22/7/26

57 (77)
65

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

18th witness Arasappa.

Father's name Arasojappa.

Age 14.

Caste Marhatta.

Occupation Kambli weaver.

Residence Bangalore.

On affirmation

On 20-7-26 at about 3 P.M. I was standing near our maistri and others near the door of the woollen weaving department. The Reserve Police came from the cattle shed gate. Boys made galata as the Police came. Thinking that this Police came to beat, they began to throw stones at them. We told them not to make galata. I can't identify the boys. One or two stones fell on the Reserve Police and some fell on the ground. We were driving out the boys. Just then a dorai snatched a rifle from his man, fired. The shot hit me and some other boys. It hit my left leg below the knee. Then I went away. The Dorai was about 50 yards from us whon he fired. The Dorai or the Reserve men did not tell any people that they should not throw stones and that if they did he would fire. The first shot which hit me also hit 2 other men. I do not know their names. They went some distance and fell down. I do not know what happened subsequently.

R. O. I & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

City Magistrate
incharge

58 178

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore. 66

19th witness	Rachiah
Father's name	Siddaiah
Age	19
Caste	Kanneor
Occupation	Woollen weaving
Residence	Bangalore

On affirmation

On Tuesday 20-7-26 we were asking the Manager for our allowance at about 12 noon. The Manager said he would not give. The boys then threw some stones into the Manager's office and were making galata. I cannot identify who they were. We then went near our department. The Reserve Police came in from the cattle shed gate. Some little boys were throwing stones at them. Then the Dorai fired a shot. It hit one man on the thigh and the other on the back of the head. I saw the Dorai fire one shot. The particles of the shot hit my right neck and it is a little charred. We ran away. The Reserve Police were at a distance of about 50 yards from the people. The Dorai or the Rederve Police did not say anything before the former fired. The doctor in the Victoria Hospital gave me the chit Ex. A. dated 21-7-26 for treating me.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

22/7/26.

67 59 (79

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Joseph, 20th witness.

Age 25

Father's name Neelakanta Sunitha

Caste. Indian Christian.

Occupation. Cotton Weaving.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

On 20-7-26, the workmen as usual did work in the morning from 6-30 to 11-30 A.M. At about 10 A.M., myself and 10 or 15 others of our department asked our department master for our bonus. The bonus was being paid to us generally a week after our pay for June was paid. The pay for every month is paid on the Saturday after the 7th. If 7th is a Saturday, the pay is disbursed ~~is paid~~ on 14th -- Saturday. The bonus is ~~just~~ thus being paid since 4 or 5 years as far as I know at the rate of 10 Rs per pay of Rs 100/-. This year, bonus was not paid even after 10 days after pay was disbursed. The master drove away those who had come to ask for bonus. Then they went for work again. It was 11-30 A.M. and all went for to take food. When I came back to the mill after food, all the people were standing outside their departments in the mill and did not go inside for work. They were saying that they would not go for ~~their~~ work if they were not paid bonus. Our master, Bently, called me and asked me what the matter was. I told him what the workmen were saying. He did not give any reply regarding bonus but was simply asking the men to work. We were sitting near the Manager's office. The manager asked us to give him 3 days time and said that he would ask the Head Office and if they sanctioned bonus and if he received their order, he would consider. He did not even say that he would pay after the order was received. Then as spokesman of the workmen and as suggested by them, I told the Manager that if he gave a written agrrement stating that he would pay bonus after 3 days. The manager refused to give such an agreement Then we refused to work and said that we would go away if our dues up-to-date were settled. All the people assembled also said like-wise.

68 bb 180

The Manager did not reply to this. The Manager asked for 5 minutes time. I do not know for what purpose he asked. Then people said that the Manager telephoned for the Police. The Reserve Police came went inside the Manager's office. Some boys and some men in the crowd threw some stones on the Reserve men as they were entering the manager's office. The stones did not hit the Reserve Police but fell on the zinc sheets of the manager's office. I cannot identify the men or boys. I donot know if the stones were thrown from near or far. The Reserve Inspector and some other officers were talking to me in the varandha. Just then people came and cried out that some reserved men had come and fired and that some men were dead. I told some men to go to the Dewan and represent that for having asked our wages and bonus, they summoned the Reserve and got men shot dead. One of the injured men was brought and taken to the Manager's office and the other was kept in the varandha. Some others were lying dead in other places. I did not witness the shooting.

R.C.S. J. & A. C.

Sd/ B. Rangaiengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

"Copy"

City Magistrate
Incharge.

61 (18)

69

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.
(Victoria Hospital)

Deposition of Munisami, 21st witness.

Father's name. Munisami

Age 40

Caste. Vanneer

Occupation Machanic Drawing

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

On Tuesday 20-7-26 workmen made galata asking for Bonus I went to the pipe and drank water and turned. 5 or 6 Reserve Police men in khaki dress came and shot against the men who were in front. I do not know why they shot. A gun shot hit me on the back of my neck. It passed through the back of the neck. I bled. I cannot say which of the reserve men shot. I was not in the crowd when I was hit. I was at a distance of 100 yards from the Police. All the crowd was collected near the Manager's Office and was making galata there. None of the Reserve men gave any warning before firing. I saw a man fall down after the gun shot. He fell on one sdde and I was standing very near him on another side. I did not see any European in white dress. The coolies were throwing stones etc at the office. I did not see any one was throwing stones at the Reserve Police. I do not know why the Reserve Police shot. I cannot say how many shot were fired and by which of the reserve men. About 10 or 20 men were standing near me when I was hit. My pay is Rs 15/- in the mill.

R.B.& T.&A A.C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,
City Magistrate, in charge.

City Magistrate
in charge.

70 62 (8)

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Chinna Pille, 22nd witness.

Age. 14

Father's name. Arha

Caste Paria

Occupation. Spinning.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

My native place is Tiruvannamale. I get Rs. 13-12-0 as pay. On Tuesday last workmen asked for Bonus. Manager refused to pay and said " if you like you may work or else go". People refused to work and began throwing stones on the terrace of the Manager's office. The manager went in. Then people threw stones at the window Then they sent for the Police. The Reserve Police first entered by the gate in which the workmen enter. When they came near Manager's Office, the people threw stones at them. Then the Police went and hi hid in the Manager's office. Shortly afterwards some more Reserve men came by the cattleshed gate. Some people threw stones at them an and ran away. The Dorai who was with the Reserve Police was ready to shoot with his gun. I drank water and came back. Some people were standing there and some had gone. Dorai fired his gun. His shot hit me on my left buttock. I heard 3 shots. I do not know who fired the 2 other shots. I ran away and went to the hospital. After I reached the hospital I was told that 2 men were shot and had died. The Dorai or the Police did not warn the people that if they made galata they would be shot.

R.O. & I & A.C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

"Copy"

City Magistrate
Incharge

63 (83
71

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Witness No.23.

Name. Hussain Beg.

Age. 33.

Caste. Musalman

Occupation. Reserve Police Constable No.2.

Father's name. Abdulla Beg.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation:-- On 20th July 1926 Mr. Searle took us to the Kengeri Gate Station. Daffedar Ahmad Kan told Mr. Searle that his men had been severely beaten. Mr. Searle and we proceeded fast near the Mills. The hind gate was closed. The watchman said he had no orders to open it. Just then Head Watchman came and opened the door. When we went to the corner the workmen threw stones and casurina sticks at us and abused us. We told them not to beat us as we had come for their help. We proceeded ½ or ¾ furlong like this. They receded but continued to throw stones &c. The stoning increased very much hundreds and thousands of stones were pelted. We again advised the crowd not to throw at us. Some one from the top threw a ladder. ~~We were~~ It fell on the ground. We were passing in a lane between 2 rows of buildings. I received a blow with a stone, on my left hip. Another stone fell on Havildar's rifle. The rifle fell down. He picked it. I received another blow from a casurina stick. 300 or 400 men who were at a distance of 100 yards came running saying " ಇವರು ಹಿಂದು ಹೊಡಿತಾರೆ ". Our Saheb and other men advised them. But they did not listen and began abusing us. Thinking that if the crowd attached us we would be killed, our Saheb i.e., Mr. Searle fired a shot. I do not know whom it hit. Even after the shot was fired the crowd said " ಅವರು ಹಿಂದು ಹೊಡಿತಾರೆ ಹೊಸ್ಕೆರೆಯಿಂದ ~~ಬಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ~~ ". So saying they came to attack us. We got very much afraid. Our Saheb told us to fire one round. All

72-64 (84)

All our men then fired. They did not know to fire as some of them were recruits. The crowd ran away. We advanced and turned. Again lot of stones and sticks were pelted at us. We went on receiving blows and turned towards the crowd/went backwards facing the crowd. There were about 50 waggons of sticks there. We went and stood at about 60 yards from the front gate near the store room. Other men came and joined us. Our Saheb took the rifle from one of our men and fired. The havildar's gun did not act. The remaining 6 men fired. I do not know to whom if any the shots hit. While passing we saw a man crying Ayyayya and lying down. In the galeta we raised our gun and fired. We did not see whether the shots went high or low.

R.O. & A. C.

(Sd.) B. Ranga Iyengar,

In charge City Magistrate.

73

(85

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Abdul Jabbar, 24th witness.

Age. 45

Father's name. Gulam Mohadeem.

Caste. Musalman.

Occupation. Reserve Police Constable No.121.

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

On 20-7-26 we 8 constables, 1 Havaldar and 1 Superintendant went to the Benny Mills. Each of us ~~were~~ was given 10 cartridges. Near Kengari Police Station the Police Sergeant there told Mr. Searle that his men had received much injuries. We entered by the left gate. The crowd began to pelt stones. We fixed our boynets as ordered and proceeded. The pelting continued. We advised the crowd not to hurt us and that we had come for their help. The crowd did not mind, but abused us. We simply showed our guns and fired without cartridges. This, too the crowd did not mind. Our Saheb too advised the crowd to leave the way. The crowd did not mind and called out other men. They collected in greater numbers and pelted more stones. Our Saheb loaded a cartridge and fired to the air. Still the men did not care and advanced to attack us. Our Saheb ordered us to load our guns. He too loaded again. Our Saheb ordered us to fire each a shot. We -- fired pointing below. Then the crowd dispursed allowing us way to proceed. When we turned the lane, the crowd again attacked us. Then we turned round & facing the crowd went backwards. I fired a shot. The crowd was 70 or 80 yards from us when we fired. If he had gone nearer and had not fired they would have come and snatched our rifles and killed us. When we went near the front gate, we saw you (City Magistrate). I did not see if our shots ~~met~~ hit any one and any one fell down.

R.O.& I & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar,

In charge City Magistrate.

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Abdul Rahim 25th witness.

Age 38

Caste Musalman

Occupation . Reserve Constable No.63.

Father's Name Fakuruddeen

Residence Bangalore.

On affirmation.

When we had gone 20 or 25 steps inside the gate of the Mills on 20-7-26 300 or 400 men threw stones, bricks etc., on us. We advised them not do so and proceeded. Pelting increased. Our Saheb too advised both in Hindustani and canarese. Our Saheb fired a shot. Stones fell on us like rain. Our Saheb said " Fire one round". We fired a round. The crowd ran away. We proceeded. They began to pelt stones from behind. We turned round and went backwards, to the northgate. When we went near the Mill Manager's room our men came to our support. I did not see whom our shots hit.

R.O.I & A.C.

Sd. B. Ranga Iyengar,

In charge City Magistrate.

"copy"

City Magistrate
In charge

(87)

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore. 75-67

Deposition of Tabarkhan, 26th witness.

Age. 35

Father's name. Ahamed Khan.

Caste Musalman.

Occupation. Reserve Constable No.90

Residence. Bangalore.

On affirmation.

On 20-7-26 we went under Mr. Searle's command to the Kengeri Station. Mr. Searle asked the Daffedar of Kengeri Station where our men. He told Mr. Searle that our men had been beaten and injured very much and were in the Mills. We entered by the rear gate. When we went 100 or 150 yards about 500 people began to pelt stones sticks and bricks at us as soon as they saw. Mr. Searle went forward and tried to pecify the crowd in English Tamil and Hindustani. The crowd did not mind and continued abusing and pelting stones. We proceed 50 or 60 yards. Pelting increased. We fixed our boynats as ordered and proceeded 20 yards. Pelting increased. Mr. Searle asked us to fire blank. We fired but the people did not mind. Mr. Searle fired a shot. More stones were pelted. If we had delayed for a moment the crowd would have snatched our rifles and killed us. About thousand men attacked us. Mr. Searle fired a 2nd shot. The crowd again pelted stones. Then Mr. Searle asked us to fire one round. We fired. We were tremblin with fear.

R.O.& I & A.C.

(Sd) B. Ranga Iyengar,

In Charge City Magistrate.

Copy
Abdul Wahid
City Magistrate
Bangalore

(88

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

7688

DEPOSITION :

(27)th Witness

Name: R. Peter.

Father's Name. Rajoo

Caste. Christian

Occupation. Reserve Constable. No.32. Bugler

Residence: Bangalore.

R. Peter: On Affirmation.

At Kengeri Station the Duffedar there told one saleb that our Constable had been badly beater and heads smashed and asked us to go soon. We entered by the hind gate. About 200. or 300 men were present. Some men were on the Buildings. We fixed our Bayonets as ordered and stood in charge. Stones, bricks, iron peices and sticks were thrown at us. I received 2 blows. Our Saheb advised the crowd to make way and said that we had come to help them. But pelting continued. Saheb pointed his gun. The crowd was not afraid. The crowd came nearer and pelting increased. Saheb fired one shot and ordered us to load and fire. I had no practice of firing. The Cartridge stuck, when I pulled the trigger, the shot went off. I had never before fired a shot. When we advanced, the people at the back came to hit us. We turned out and proceeded backwards to the North Gate where we saw (City Magistrate).

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar., ~~B.A.B.L.~~,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore

(In Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
BANGALORE:

(in charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

77/69 .89

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(28) th Witness:

Name: Mohammad Gous

Age 36. Years

Father's Name. Skeik Jamal Sab

Caste: Musalman

Occupation: Reserve Constable No.50.

Residence. Bangalore.

Mohammad Gous: On Affirmation.

At the Kengeri Gate Station the Duffedar told our Officer that our men had been severely beaten and injured. We went by left gate. We went 50. paces. The crowd threw lots of stones, sticks and etc., against us and began to abuse us. Our Havildar and Saheb advised the crowd very much several times. They did not listen and continued pelting. Our Saheb fired a shot to the air. The crowd said " They are simply threatening and continued abusing and throwing stones and came nearer us ". A causurina stick fell on my neck. I got stunned and sat down but got up immediately. Our Saheb told us to fire a round. We fired. The crowd dispersed and our way was clear. We advanced and turned in a lane. Again the crowd began to pelt stones and sticks & etc., again. We turned round and went backwards facing the crowd to the North Gate with charged bayonets. Stones fell like rain, while we proceeded, the crowd had come to a distance of 50. Yards from us when we fired. If we had not fired the crowd would have killed us. What could we 10. people do when 400 or 500 people had closed on us and attacked us? When we went near the North Gate the Magistrate and others arrived.

D.I. & A.C.
Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, ---.,
---.,
Special First Grade
---. City Magistrate, Bangalore:

78 79 (90

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(29)th Witness:

Name.	Siddam Naidu
Age.	27. Years
Father's Name.	Chengam Naidu
Caste	Kamma Naidu
Occupation:	Reserve Constable No.123.
Residence.	Bangalore.

Siddam Naidu: On Affirmation:

When we entered the Mills people threw stones and sticks at us. Our Doray took my Rifle. I received blows on my left hand finger and on my left hip. I came back about 5. Yards as I received injuries, and was suffering pain. Guns were fired by our party but I do not know which of them fired. However much the crowd was advised they did not stop pelting stones and etc., and we were ~~in~~ in great danger.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar., ~~esq~~,
B.A.B.L.
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore:

(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
B A N G A L O RE.

(In charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

79 71 '91

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(30)th Witness

Name: Sadasivan

Age. 53. Years

Father's Name. Kulkanan

Caste. Panchara

Occupation. Reserve Constable.No.134

Residence. Bangalore.

Sadasivan: On Affirmation:-

I went with the Ist party under Mr.Anderson. We 26 men marched by the big North Gate. The crowd abused us saying " Why did you come" and pelted stones at us all round. We bent our heads and we all went into the Manager's Office, as we could not bear the blows outside. Before I entered the Office I received a severe blow with a stone on my head. I bled profusely. The Doctor treated me. Mr. Anderton stood at the door of the Manager's room.

R.I. & A.C.
Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, ~~B.A.~~, B.A.B.L.,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore.

(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
B A N G A L O R E.

(in charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

192

8072

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

31st witness Jagannatha Naidu.

Father's name Narasimha Naidu

Age 30

Caste Telugu Banajigar

Occupation Reserve Police Naik No. 129.

Residence Bangalore.

On affirmation

I belong ~~the Havildar's~~ to Mr. Anderton's party. I receive two blows one on my head and one on my right arm. A stone hit ~~on~~ my right arm. A stick or a stone hit my head. Both the wound bled. The mill doctor treated me and dressed my wounds.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

(in charge)

City magistrate, Bangalore.

81 73 (93

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

32nd witness	Syed Mohdeen
Father's name	Syed Ahmed
Caste	Mahomedan
Age	48
Occupation	Reserve constable 15.

On affirmation

I received injuries one on my head and one on my right cheek. These were caused by pelting of stones by the crowd. My peta fell down. The doctor dressed my wounds. I am of Mr. Anderton's party.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

(in charge)
City Magistrate. Bangalore.

WD 01331—GPB—57,000—29-12-24.

Deposition Sheet.
Sec. 357, Cr. P. Code.

Form No. 37, Criminal.

94

8274

IN THE COURT OF the City Magistrate AT Bangalore.

CASE No. OF 192 —192 .

Deposition of Sheik Ibrahim 33rd witness (Mr.Anderton's party)

Father's name Sheik Mahomed

Age 60

Caste Mussalman

Occupation Reserve constable No.3

Residence Bangalore.

. . . . .

On affirmation

I was hit by casarina sticks. My chest is still paining.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

22-7-26

(in charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

WD 01331—GPB—57,000—29-12-34.

Deposition Sheet.
Sec. 357, Cr. P. Code.

Form No. 37, Criminal.

8375 '95

IN THE COURT OF the City Magistrate AT Bangalore.

CASE No. OF 192 —192 .

Deposition of Chowdaia 34th witness

Father's name Kempegowda

Age 28

Caste Vokkaligar

Occupation Reserve constable No. 94

Residence Bangalore.

On affirmation

I received a blow on my right knee and a blow on my shoulder with casarena sticks. My knee is swollen and I am limping.

R. I. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

(in charge)
City magistrate. Bangalore

84 76 (96

In the Court of the City Magistrate, Bangalore.

Deposition of Mr. Mellor 35 th witness.

Father's name W. Mellor.

Caste Anglo Indian

Age ~~42~~ 49

Occupation Assistant Superintendent, Railway & C. I. D.

Residence Bangalore.

On affirmation

As instructed by the A. I. G. , I went to see what the matter was in the mills. I saw a big crowd in the compound shouting and throwing stones. Just then a sergeant and 3 constables of Kengarigate Police had been stoned and turned out of the compound by the mob. Inspector Srinivasavaradachar and Ramaswamiengar of the C. I. D. were with me. We tried to enter the gate but the passage was blocked and we were pelted with stones. We remained at the gate. The crowd at the gate was trying to force itself in the gate. There was a rumour that the Manager and others had been beaten and were locked up. So I went to the Electric Store Room and tried to telephone to the Mill office. No one replied. I telephoned to the I.G. office to the effect that all available men should be sent up and the state of affairswas very bad and that the magistrate also should be sent for. While telephoning I learnt that the Reserve under Mr. Anderton had arrived. We tried to go behind then into the gate but could not succeed. Anderton and his men were badly hurt by stones and sticks. A few minutes later a second detachment arrived under Naik Hyderi. We tried to follow this party . But the party was badly hit and had to retreat to the main gate. The Naik asked my permission to fire on the mob. I told him not to do so till the magistrate arrived. They

took shelter on the left of the gate. The mob after driving them went to the Manager's office from where they came. A short while later the City A. S. P. arrived and I told him the situation. I went to Kengari station and telephoned to the Head Quarter Inspec--tor to inform the District Magistrate, Police Superintendent and all concerned to come to the spot at once. I also asked the A. I. G. to send more men. He sent 100 men from the Police Training School.

R. O. & A. C.

Sd/-. B. Ranga Iyengar,

Incharge City Magistrate.

22-7-26.

(In charge)
City Magistrate. Bangalore

88 (98
78

IN THE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE, BANGALORE:

DEPOSITION:

(36) th Witness

Name: Srinivasa Varada Char

Age 42. Years.

Father's Name. Srinivasa Raghava Char

Caste. Sree Visnava Brahmin

Occupation. Police Inspector F.P. Bureau C.I.D.

Residence. Bangalore.

Srinivasa VaradaChar: on Affirmation:

I followed Mr. Mello to the Mill Chowk. We noticed that the crowd was at a rage and were throwing stones as Police people entered. I met the A.S.P. at the Mill Chowk corner and warned him about the situation and that unarmed Police was no good. When I came near Kengeri Police Station, I met Mr.Searle. I told him that the situation was serious and that three of the Special Reserve men had serious injuries and stabbed at the Times Office (Gate) and that we were going to Telephone to the District Magistrate.

R.O. & A.C.

Sd/. B. Ranga Iyengar, M.A.,
~~B.A.B.L.~~,
Special First Grade
Magistrate, Bangalore
(in Charge)
First Class Magistrate,
B A N G A L O R E.

DATED: 22-7-1926:

(in charge)
City Magistrate, Bangalore.

87 79 199

N o t e s:--

20-7-1926. Ganga. deaceased is lying to the west of the woollen weaving room just by the side of the wall, with face to the south and legs to the north. He is lying on his back. There is a big gunshot wound on the right thigh about 4 inches or 6 inches above the knee. The wound is 3½ inches in diameter and about 1½ inches deep. The deceased's arms are folded on his chest.

Kempia. Deceased is lying to the East of the Cutting Department building with head towards North west and legs towards South East. His arms are stretched with palms upwards. There is a big gunshot gaping wound on the back of the head on the left side just above the neck. It is 3 or 4 inches in diameter and about 6 inches in ~~length~~ diameter and about 6 inches in depth. The bones appear to be fractured. Brain matter, blood &c., are spurled on the wall.

Taken by Ag P on 27/7 in handwriting of Ag P on 27/7/26

(61) 23 88 10

Statement of Mr. E.W.L.Tate, Cutting Department [redacted] Master before the Inspector General of Police on 27-7-1926.

At about 12-30 on the 20th instant when I entered the Mills, I saw a huge crowd near the Cotton Weaving and as they were rather unruly I suspected something. Later on I saw Mr. Bentley, the Cotton Weaving Master trying to explain in English something to the crowd. This happened just near the Cotton Weaving. Thinking that Mr. Bentley could not explain himself properly as he did not know the language I stepped in by his side and started to explain to them in Ta what Mr. Bentley was trying to explain to them in English. The Director Mr. Nuttal was there at the time. He came up me and told me to inform them that within 3 days they woul informed about their bonus. Well - I tried my best to explain this to them but to no avail. Then Mr. Nuttal wa on towards the Manager's Office. The crowd followed and followed with the crowd thinking that something may happen t Mr. Nuttal. When we got to the Manager's Office Mr. Nuttal and the Manager were standing in the verandah. The crowd w pressing up to the verandah on to the steps and came on to t verandah. I with the help of others were pushing them back At that time they seem to be in a very angry mood. A littl after stones began to be thrown. Even billets of casuarina sticks which are used for boilers were thrown about. The Manager and Mr. Nuttal went into the Manager's Office but th stones came in pelting and they had to find a place to keep out of the way of the stones, as all the window panes were broken. This continued for a considerable time and I could distinctly hear crowds shouting that the Manager should get a thrashing, and I do believe had the Manager come out at the time they would have torn him into bits. The Manager and Mr. Nuttal were for a long time held up in the Office.

A party of Reserve Police with arms in charge of a European Officer walked into the Mills towards the Manager's office. Directly they got close enough to it, they were simply mobbed by the crowd with sticks and stones. They had no other alternative but to run away into the Manager's office. Several of the Police who were wounded were spoken to by me. I even examined their wounds; there was one man - he got a cloud on his back with a stick and was scarcely able to walk straight. Others were wounded on their body and face. Still the riotous mob were carrying on their game with stones. All of a sudden I heard that some of the Police had come in by the back entrance and fired at the people there and that two of them were shot. Immediately after I saw a couple of wounded men being carried towards the Manager's Office. At that time there was a shout which lasted about 3 to 4 minutes and everything was quiet. Every body felt quite safe to move about. A little while after I came down to the back of the Mill where firing was supposed to have happened. I saw one dead body near my Department window and going down the road towards the Cattle shed by which the Police had entered I could see 35 casuarina billets about a yard long and a number of sticks belonging to carts (props) strewn on the ground. A number of stones - a big wooden hammer and iron bolt. After which I turned back and went to Manager's office. From what happened with the crowd had the firing not taken place, I don't think our lives were worth a candle. As the mob was determined to do some great mischief the Police came in at this nick of time & saved the situation.

Sd. E.W.L.Tate

27-7-1926

24 90 109

Statement of Mr. R. Thomson, Spinning Master before the Inspector General of Police on 27-7-1926.

I saw the Reserve Police with about 30 men under an Inspector. As they marched in some 30 or 40 coolies threw stones and billets at them. This may be at about 2 P.M. or there about on the 20th instant. I came back to the bundling department that is 1/4 of an hour later. I saw 20 or 30 men running south towards Woollen Department throwing stones and waving sticks and shouting out that the Reserve Police had come in by another gate. East Gate near the bullock shed and calling on others to join them and assault the Police. After a minute or two they ran back again saying that the Police were entering by the west gate. On the way 10 -15 men stopped at the Doctor's shop, threw stones, broke the glasses, By this time I came out Stood in front of the way. I recognised one of my assistant masters with a club in his hand jumping out in a fury and calling on others to follow him. Just then Assistant cooly maistry from the Engineering department came running up waving his turban. I caught him and asked if this was the behaviour of a maistry. He denied having left them. This was in the presence of the peon at the weaving shed door about This was 10 minutes before we heard of the shooting. The mob was in a frenzy and calling upon the others to hammer the Police. They wanted to drive the Police out of the Mills by violance. If the Police had not opened fire probably we would have all been killed. They were all calling out for Mr. Bentley and not Mr. Southworth whom they wanted to kill. They were all talking in Tamil. I know Tamil. Telugu, Hindustani and could understand what they were talking. I have been in three strikes in the Mills before but never saw one like this. If the Police had not opened fire the Police would have been overpowered, probably taken the rifle from the Police and killed us. There is no knowing what

91

would have been the consequences if the Police had not opened fire. The shooting was most timely.

Sd/- R. Thomson.

27-7-1926.

25 92/110

Statement of Mr. P. Sreenivasa Rao, Mill Doctor, Binny Mills before the Inspector General of Police. Date 27-7-1926.

I was present at the Mill Dispensary on the 20th instant when the disturbance started. About 2 P.M. or little later I heard some gun shots. Lots of ~~Police~~ Coolies were running back that is from the direction of Woollen Department towards the Manager's Office. Among these running back some began to tear the wire net and break the glass panes of the windows of the Dispensary, broke some medicine bottles etc. One entered into the Dispensary hall throughthe window The Coolies were in the high pitch of excitement and ~~xxx~~ assuming a violent attitude. The Reserve Police stepped in atthe right moment else they would have probably assaulted me.

Sd/-. P. Sreenivasa Rao,

27-7-1926.

CONFIDENTIAL (8) 84 93 103

No. 163/26 Office of the Inspector General of Police in Mysore
Enc. 1.

Dated Bangalore, the 26th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

I have received copies of the reports of the District Magistrate and the City Magistrate, Bangalore sent to you about the disturbances in the Binney Mills. It is a superfluity to trasmit copies of these for the information of Government.

Mr. Venkoba Rao in para 4 of his letter of the 23rd instant referred one aspect of the case, the technique of the shooting etc for my opinion and ~~x~~ I enclose a note for the information of Government as also my own opinion regarding the necessity on the part of the Police to open fire.

Yours sincerely,

To

B. Nagappa, Esquire, Bar-at-Law,
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Local and Legislative Departments,
Bangalore.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Binny Mills Riot.

With reference to the District Magistrate's report of the 23rd July 1926 with which he has forwarded the report of the City Magistrate Mr. Ranga Iyengar, I feel that a statement is due from me, as the District Magistrate has remarked that the techique of the shooting is a matter for investigation and necessary departmental action by the Inspector General of Police.

I will preface my remarks by pointing out that the Special Rserve Police Force were last year rearmed with the .303 rifle as used in the Army except that the Magazine which carries 10 cartridges and permits of rapid fire has been removed and the rifle is now a single loader--that is only one shot can be fired at at a time.

If a human is hit by a shot from this rifle the size of the entrance hole of the wound will be slightly smaller than a pencil and the ~~xxxx~~ exit hole a bit bigger. The wound will be a very small one unless a bone is struck when the exit hole will be larger.

If however the bullet should strike the ground first, or a wall, the bullet will be deflected and instead of hitting its object end on will hit it sideways thus causing a very much larger and more severe and jagged wound. On this occasion the men were ordered by Mr. Searle to fire low so that the bullets probably hit the ground and ricochetted or else they hit the wall behind the men and rebounded back which would have the same effect as a ricochet. This is what must have happened in the case of the man found dead at the back of the crowd with his skull blown away.

The Distrcit Magistrate in his report said that although

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although only 4 men were ordered to fire, they all did so. The fact is, so Mr. Searle tells me, the men were imploring him to let them shoot ~~them~~ long before they actually did so and that in one instance he snatched a rifle from a man who was about to fire as the man could not restrain himself.

The probabilities are that in the noise, tumult and confusion, it was impossible for the men to realise that only 4 should fire and they all did so when the word of command was given.

The City Magistrate has remarked that one man Peters did not know how to use a rifle. This man is a bandsman and he has had training in the use of arms. The reason why he says he does not know how to shoot is because he was pointed out by one of the Coolies as one of the Policemen who had killed a rioter. The Cooly who pointed him out is the son of Raju, a Drill Instructor, who is living in the Lines, and last year the former made indecent overtures to Peter's wife and got a severe hammering.

This Cooly instigated the other Mill Coolies to kill Peters and that night the latter had to be sent out of Mill disguised as a woman as he was afraid of his life. This is why this man is trying to excuse himself by saying that he did not know how to shoot.

I think I may be permitted to give my opinion on the action taken by Mr. Searle. From all I can gather and which is borne out by the reports of the District Magistrate and the City Magistrate it will be understood that the situation was most serious. Mr. Searle was in such a position that he could not advance and if he remained where he was, he was likely to be overpowered. If this had happened, it is extremely likely that he and his men would have been severely beaten if not killed and the rifles and ammunition taken from them.

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On the otherhand, if he had tried to retire and things had become worse in the Mill area, the machinery wrecked, and Officers killed or injured, he would have been accused of cowardly behaviour in the face of a mob.

In my considered opinion in which I am up-held by every one whom I have mentioned the matter to, he did the right thing in opening fire and I believe that but for this the Mill riot ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ would not have been so easily quelled.

As it was, the Mill doctor was about to have been severely handled in his dispensary and it was only the shooting that saved him by diverting the attention of the rioters. Had the cotton in the Mills been fired, the whole Mill might have been wrecked.

It will be seen from the report of the District Magistrate and the City Magistrate that the Police were fully justified in firing on the mob and I hope that Government will justify the action taken by them.

Inspector General of Police.

Office of the
Inspector General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore, 27th July 1926.

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Sir,

Please ~~the~~ submit the enclosed papers for the information of the First Member of Council.

Yours Sincerely,

Asst to the I.G.of Police.

To

S. Venkataramana Iyer, Esquire,
Personal Assistant to the
First Member of Council, Bang

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Memo.

1. Havildar Balaprasad says that he was close to Mr. Searle and heard distinctly Mr. Searle issue orders for one Naik and three men to fire but in the noise and confusion it is doubtful whether all the men heard him distinctly and clearly.

2. The total number of cartridges used is only 8 and there are the 8 empty cases. Mr. Searle's detachment consisted of himself 1 Havildar and 8 men. Mr. Searle took the rifle of one of the constables and fired. Havildar Balaprasad did not fire as the safety catch did not work. The remaining 7 constables fired.

3. A copy of the reply letter to the Manager of the Mills sent at about 2 P.M. on the 20th instant is also enclosed for information.

4. A statement showing the list of Police men injured and the nature of injuries as certified by the medical authorities is also enclosed.

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Statement showing the Officers and men attending Hospital.

(of party who were injured in the Binny Milla Strike on the 20th July 1926).

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Serial No.	Metal No.	Rank and Name.	Date of despatch of sick.	Date of discharge.	Description of injuries sustained by each man.
1	1	Havildar Hamid Hussain	24-7-26		1. a diffused contusion on the left side. 2. an abrasion exposing the true skin on the back of right hand. an abrasion on the back of the right index finger. an abrasion on the right cheek.
2	3	Pro Naik Sheik Ibrahim	25-7-26		Some pain on the posterior aspect of the neck and upper part of both sides of back.
3	15	P.C. Syed Mohadeen	24-7-26		A contused wound 2/3" long 1/6" broad and scalp deep on the back of the head. A diffused contusion of the size of a small marble on the right cheek.
4.	27	do Mannaji Rao	24-7-26	25-7-26	Discharged. A scratch 1/6" long exposing the skin behind the left ear.
5.	32	do R. Peter	24-7-26		A diffused contusion 2½" in diameter on the outer aspect of right hip. A contusion of the size of the a small lime on the back of the left shoulder joint.
6.	50	do Mohamed Ghouse	24-7-26		A circular contusion of 3" diameter on the right side of scalp above the temporal region. Pain over the region of left scapoula. No visible injury could be found.
7	94	do Chowdiah	24-7-26		Slight abrasion of skin on the lower part of the outer aspect of the left fore arm. A circular contusion of 3" diameter on the upper part of the left side of back. Slight contusion over the right knee.
8.	62	do Abdul Rahiman	do		A contused wound 1/4" long one line broad and one line deep on the horizontal portion of the left lower jar.
9.	115	do Ekambara Mudaliar	do		Contusion of the size of a small marble on the middle of the posterior aspect of the right index finger. Slight scarlet of skin ½" long on the posterior aspect of the right middle finger. Slight contusion over the pasterior aspect of the left wrist.
10.	129	do Jagannayakaloo	do		A contused wound at the corner part of the back of the head. An abrasion on the outer aspect of the right elbow joint.

11	134	do	Sadasivan	do		A contused wound 3/4" long, two lines broad and scalp deep situated on the right ~~parietal~~ parietal region.
12	136	do	Sheik Ismail	do	26-7-26	Discharged. A oval contusion 2" x 1½" on the outer aspect of the right hip, over the region of right superior iliac spine. A circular contusion of 1" diameter on the posterior ~~aspect~~ lower aspect of scalp, towards the left side. A small abrasion of the skin in front of middle left leg.
13	182	do	Shamprasad	do		A lacerted wound ½" long and skin deep situated on the outer aspect of left upper ~~external~~. arm.

Bangalore,

26th July 1926.

Sd/- ~~xxxxx~~ J.V.M.Anderton,

Inspector of Police.

1) (10 100

Letter dated 20th July 1926 from the Assistant~~x Manag~~ Manager The Bangalore Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills Ltd., Bangalore City.

We confirm our telephone message of date requesting that a of the Reserve Police be sent over immediately to the Mills as ther a slight disturbance aomngst our work-people. Please treat urgently

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Received at 1.45 P?.M.

Submiited to I.G.

I could not get at the D.S.P.or A.S.P.but transmitted this n to the District Magistrate. I sent Mr. Mellor in advance to let us the exact situation, after seeing the Manager of the Mills. Inspect Mr. Anderton with 25 Reserve men have been sent to the Mills. I hav sent for Mr. Searle and he will be going there with more men if nec in another half-an-hour. I will phone and ~~xxfx~~ wire if there is any more serious and send a letter also by the beat constable by ~~xxxxx~~ ni train. I hear the men have struck work in this Mill.

Sd/- R. Shama Rao,

---- 2.15 P.M. 20-7-1926.

2) Report of Mr. Searle.

The Mill Coolies are in the Mill compound. Inspector Ar is tied up in the Office with his men. I was badly attacked and ope fire as I was caught with 9 men in a small lane inside the Mill gat After this I was able to make my way to the Front Gate and heard t Havildar Hyder's party had been badly attacked. Some men injured. the men brought back and have a guard across the main road, inside mill. The District Magistrate has just turned up and I am awaiting orders. The Coolies won't leave the Mill. The Manager I hear is in jured and tied up in his Office we entered to try and clear the c out.

Sd/- H.G.Searle.

C O P Y

Beg to report as follows concerning the strike at Messrs. Binny & Co., Mills on the 20th Instant.

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1. The coolies were due a bonus for 6 months ending June 1926 which was due to be paid on the 17th July. Owing to instructions not being received from Head Office, Madras, was not paid.

2. The Manager had no information that a strike would take place which occurred immediately after the mid-day meal hour.

3. Several parties of Police were sent at intervals, the first party under Inspector Anderton arrived at the Mills at about 2-15 P.M.

4. The coolies were very aggresive, and wanted to drive the Police out by force.

5. The party under me which had entered by the lower of the 2 Gates on the Eastern side, after passing through the Coal yard turned to the right into a narrow road about a furlong in length and was met by a crowd of from 2 to 300 coolies who on seeing us commenced to shower stones, I ordered the party to fix bayonets and moved on a few yards under a rain of stones, the party was halted and the crowd was ordered by me, the Havildar and constabl to desist, again an advance was made under a rain of stones to about half way up, when not only stones but bricks and casuarina billets were rained on them. Havildar Balaprasad was struck on the arm paralysing his hand causing his rifle to fall to the ground, I again warned the crowd that I would fire if they did n disperse, they were reinforced from a side-road and a back lane by other coolies who brought more casuarina billets, bricks and stones these were still rained on the party. At this juncture, I had to restrain my men from firing, we could make no headway and the situation very grave I could not retire for two reasons, one was that I felt I must get through to the relief of the Reserve Police inside who I had been informed were being badly beate

beaten, the other, that if I attempted to do so my small party would be overpowered and the crowd get possession of the rifles, bayonets and ammunition if they succeeded in this, there was no knowing where matters would end, and what the consequences would be I took a rifle from one of my men P.C.123 and again warned the crowd to desisit, they only jeered, parties were going and coming bringing stones, bricks and billets. I again warned them and told the Havildar also to do so. He and all my men shouted out warnings I said I would fire and moved forward a couple of paces, brought the rifle to the aim, brought it down again, on seeing this the crowd commenced to advance on us. Thinking to frighten and disperse them I fired a shot over their heads aiming about 10 feet high at the wall of a building, seeing that nothing happened the crowd became bolder and rushed me, all this time the throwing of billets and stones did not cease for a moment, I gave an order for the Havildar and 3 men to fire and to aim low - in the confusion 7 men did so. I learnt later that owing to a faulty safety catch the Havildar did not fire, the crowd dispersed by the side road and back lane or alley. Shots were fired by Police constables 90,121, 32,50,20,63 and 66. Police constable 20 received a blow on left buttock from a casuarina billet and a blow on the left shoulder from a ladder thrown down by some of the coolies who had scaled on to the roof of a building on our left. P.C.32 also received blows on the back from casuarina billets; these were thrown from the top of the same building on our left. Police constable 50 received a blow on the right side of head and left shoulder blade with billets P.C.123 received a cut on 2nd finger of left hand and a blow in the left groin causing a swelling, all the party were struck repeatedly with stones. 4 coolies were wounded of which 2 died at the Victoria Hospital.

2 Coolies were killed on the spot, money was given by the company to defray the funeral expenses to their relatives. Compensation would be given later by the Company mostly all the panes of glass in the Manager's office and a number of panes of glass in other buildings were broken, at the Time Office, clock was broken, a

glass

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glass case smashed, badly mauled a party of Reserve Police under Inspector Anderton which had to take refuge in the Manager's Office. Mauled another party under Havildar Hydri which had to lock themselves in the Time Office until rescued by me and my party.

8. Altogether 24 Police were injured, mostly bruised. 4 received severe cuts to head, one a cut on right hip, 4 received slighter cuts on face and hand, the reminder were bruised from blows from pieces of wood; all are doing well. A list of men injured as reported to me is appended.

9. Some people were stoned on the morning of 21st when stones were thrown at people standing at the North Gate who were apparently work people wanting to return to work, amongst them were some little boys. One boy was struck on the head, the Inspector General of Police was struck on the head - received a slight cut these stones and peices of tiles were thrown from over the compound wall of the Railway Good Sheds.

10: The City Magistrate took no action as shortly after his arrival the District Magistrate came on the scene who tried to pacify the crowd until the Dewan Saheb arrived.

11. Inquests on two bodies were held by the City Assistant Superintendent of Police at the Mills, and two at the Victoria Hospital by the 'C' Division Inspector.

12. 4 deaths, 2 on the spot, one on arrival at the Hospital and one after admission.

Sequence of events as they occurred between 2 and 7 P.M. on the 20th:- On the afternoon of the 20th I was returning to Office at 2 0'clock on my way I was met by one of my constable who gave me a chit, it was from Mr. K.Shama Rao, Assistant to the Inspector General of Police to this effect, trouble apprehended, come to office early, are your men ready. I hurried on to the office of the Inspector General of Police saw Mr.Shama Rao, he informed me that there was trouble at Binny's Mills, and

and wanted me to get every Reserve man I could, go to the Mills. see what was wrong and send him an exact account of the situation; he also informed me that Inspector Anderton had gone on with 25 men and a second party of 9 men under Havildar Hydri had gone in support, I pointed out to Mr. Shama Rao that I was in mufti, he said it did not matter as the affair was very urgent, and to go to at once, as he could not get into touch by phone with the City A.S.P. I collected Havildar Balaprasad and 8 men and went on to the Mills. When I reached the Kengeri Gate Police Station I saw a Sergeant of the City Police and asked him what was wrong, he said that the coolies and Reserve men were all mixed up and locked in the Mills, and that the Reserve men were being badly beaten and likely to be murdered. I moved on and when nearing the East Gate of the Mill, I met Inspector Srinivasavaradachar coming from the Mills, he was on a cycle, hurrying. I stopped him and asked what was the matter, he said the Reserve men were being badly beat and what I also understood, some one should give, or is wanted to give the order to fire. On hearing this I concluded the situation was grave, when I reached the junction of the roads, I looked towards the North Gate and saw a large crowd outside, I could see it would be a waste of valuable time if I tried to force my way by that entrance, so I told the watchman at the S.E. Gate to let us through, he refused but a gate Jamadar who was standing between the Gate where I was and the N.gate signalled to the watchman to let us through, I thought by getting in by this gate I would get the crowd in rear by surprise and relieve the Reserve men who were being beaten. I and my party passed through the Coal yard on reaching the bottom turned to the right into a narrow road and were met with a shower of stones - for continuation please see para 5. continued from para 5.

The crowd bolted, I moved on, and on turning into a square was met with a shower of stones and bricks I moved on, the coolies running, I passed through a passage into a square (which subsequently learnt was where the Manager's office was situated) This square was packed with coolies who on seeing me approaching half the crowd bolted down the side roads, the others stood and

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allowed me to pass, my men were then carrying their rifles at the prepare to charge position. I could see no police or any Mill official so moved on until I came to the road leading to th N.Gate (Outside which I saw a large crowd) No sooner had I got into this road, the crowd came out a closed in behind me and commenced to stone us. It was getting serious, so I ordered the men to turn about face the crowd, keep their rifles at the ready and retire step by step, after retiring some yards, casuarina billets were thrown. I kept on warning the crowd to desist, a huge iron bolt about 2 feet long with a square head was thrown but by that time we were out of range of the casurina billets but not stones. I continued retiring until I reached the Time Office, halted my men and was joined by a watchman. I asked him where were our Reserve men (meaning Mr. Anderton's) he said they are locked in (chapgaya) I also asked him if he get to the Manager and inform him that two men were lying wo and to send an ambulance, he said he could not go. I then as if the Manager could be got, he replied the Manager will not l his office as he had been beaten and was afraid, whilst speakin to him P.Naik Rangaswamy and some men of Havildar Hydri's party came out from the Time office guard room where they had bolted themselves inside, after being beaten by the coolies. I told the to fall in with my party and fix bayonets almost immediately I was joined with three other Reserve men of the same party who wer badly injured and Mr. Mahomed Hussain, this officer said to me in Hindustani, Searle Saheb look at these . what a disturbance they are creating I do not know, what is going to happen to day. "Fare Karo "Fire Karo". I said I have already fired once, the crowd will not attack (all this time stones were being thrown) so do not worry as I said this the City Magistrate came and joine us, he asked what is wrong. I pointed to the crowd and said see for yourself, just then another shower of stones came over, nothing was done and crowd did not advance. I said to Mr.Mohamad Hussain there are two wounded lying on the other side of the Mill could he send some one for an ambulance and have them removed

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he then turned to Inspector Kesva Rao who had joined us and told him to go and have the wounded coolies removed. Shortly after I saw a figure in white coming through the crowd escorted by 4 Reserve constables and Inspector Anderton, the crowd were also coming along, the City Magistrate said "It is the District Magistrate." Inspector Anderton with his men stopped the crowd the District Magistrate joined my party, he asked me what I would suggest. I replied give the crowd an order to disperse or as an alternative call on the crowd to send 5 or 6 representatives to air their grievances, he did the latter, a number of men came from the crowd and joined us and commenced to talk, more men were coming and joining the others. I told the District Magistrate too many men were coming, it would be better to ask the men to rejoin the crowd and get the crowd back to a distance then send the smaller boys outside the Mill then the others one by one after which the representatives could remain behind and discuss matters. The men did so and got the crowd back some yards Inspector Anderton and his four constables joined my party a number of stubborn coolies called out "No one will leave the Mill," or will allow no one to leave, then matters came to a dead lock until Mr. Zahiruddin Mecci who was mistaken for the Dewan by some of the coolies came up through the crowd followed on by the Dewan Saheb with an escort of 1 Naik and 6 men of Inspector Anderton's party. The Dewan spoke to the crowd, pacified them and went away to the Director's office - by 7-30 P.M. the crowd had melted away. I placed guards at all gates and constables of the Training School who had joined us after the District Magistrate's arrival, were divided into batches to patrol the different parts of the Mills during the night. I also placed on armed patrol on Binnyston Gardens where the Mill Officers' bungalows are situated to prevent mischief by fire, or any other cause. The night passed quietly.

Early morning of the 21st, the Inspector General of Police, the City Magistrate and two Directors who had arrived from Madras went out side the N. Gate and through an interpretor spoke to the crowd and said the bonus will be paid to those who resumed work at once. Some of the coolies came inside, others appeared to be trying to

to disuade others from doing so . every now and then stones were thrown from over the compound wall of the Railway Goods Shed yard where these came over the crowd at the Gate ran back towads the Bazaar, this looked as if it was intended to prevent those willing to return to work from doing so, one small boy was struck on the head, the Inspector General of Police was also struck on the hand receiving a slight cut after a time those coolies who had gone ins to work returned and left, on making enquiries why they had done s I was informed that it being the last day of the Moharram, it was a half holiday so there was no use in a few coolies working, a notice was placed on a board facing the Gate that bonus would be paid, and compensation paid to the relatives of those killed. The day passed quietly, in the evening the Inspector General of Police and the Dewan Saheb visited the Mill, the Dewan walked through the different places made enquiries, and ordered the removal of th Reserve Police. I withdrew all guards and marched back to the lines.

I made enquiries as to why the coolies were so violent towards the Police and was informed that they were mostly coolies from Vellore who had formerly worked in the Madras Mills, and resented the intrusion of the Police inside and wanted to be in possession and so enforce compliance with their demands. These coolies also had a grudge against the Manager and Asst.Manager having worked under them in Madras.

16.7.16

Sd. H.G.Searle,
Asst.Supdt.,
Pro.Reserve Police.

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. Copy of letter No.C.163/26 dated the 20th July 1926 from Inspector General of Police to the Manager,. Bangalore &n Woolle Cotton and Silk Mills, Bangalore.

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In reply to your letter of date, I write to inform y that I have deputed Inspector Mr. Anderton with 25 Special Rese men for help. Mr. Mellor. Assistant Superintendent of Police Ra Railways and C.I.D. has also been asked to go over to you to find out the exact situation.

I am sending another 25 men as a reserve.

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No.C.C.26/26. Office of the District Magistrate,
Encl: one. Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 27th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

As promised in my D.O. letter of yesterday, I am submitting herewith a copy of the Rough notes jotted down by me during my summary enquiry into the Mill Disturbance.

Yours sincerely,

B. Venkoba Rao

To

K. Chandy, Escr., B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

27/7/26

Rough notes of the evidence taken summarily under Section 176 Cr.P. Code and embodied in my report to Government on the matter.

21st July 1926.

1. Mr. Nuttall, Director:--

12-30 weavers bonus. few days. 12-45 P.M. First throwing of stones. We left it at that. 1 P.M. picked up stone. 1 P.M. for Police assistance. I.G.'s office. Mr. Mc Leod. Reserve Police 2 or 2-15. Manager's house stoned heavily. In front of office argued. Police kept inside office past 2 P.M. Workman injured carried along the office. blood flowing. Settling effect on the crowd. Firewood here. Doctor. 3 men injured. 2 killed. After death did not hear shots. Rang for ambulance 3 or 4 P.M. Resident and Dewan.

2. Mr. Southwark:--

10 to 1 P.M. Head Watchman told me Bonus a little late. Mr. Nuttal, Agent's representative not Director. No matter what the consequences were. Cotton trade bad. Neither knowledge nor authority. Mood changed. Stones thrown. Reserve Police asked about 2 P.M. rang up. Stones at Reserve Police fiercely. Gate Sergeant wounded. Two men shot 2-30 P.M. We did not see them. One of the wounded dressed in office.

3. Mr. Lawton:-

2-15 to 2-30. Firewood Poles from stocks round about here. Sticks attacked Police. Spinning Master. No wrecking of machinery. Joseph violently angry. Cardroom Joseph employed. Previous disturnance Mr. Crabtree Mr. Spinning Master Mr. Thompson.

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3 4. Mr. Thompson;--

Spinning room. 12 Noon. People standing about stones thrown. Police came in threw stones and wood at Police. Policeman pelted. ½ hour after police came. Had sticks. would kill the police. One of my coolies can identify. Not Joseph weaving shed. Mechanic's Department caught a mestri watchman at weaving gate pelting the Doctor Srinivasa Rao. Then shooting, 3 men shot. One wounded man brought here. One man. Kill manager and Mr. Bentley weaving Master. No machinery injured. Last disturbance cotton weaving always troublesome wrestling caste all bad.

4 5. Mr. Crabtree;--

Cotton Carding Section called them out. Coolies 1 P.M. Went out stones on corrugated iron. Killed. I heard. Did not know Police shot about 30 or 10 to 3. as near as I could guess. April 1921 last disturbance.

5. Mr. Bentley:--

Weaving Section. 10 A.M. huge crowd Collier Head Jobber cooly mentioned trouble. 12 Noon. Mr. Nuttal came 12-50 P.M. Joseph said want definite answer. Spokesman for weaving Department. Did not go in weaving shed door outside. Argued. Police stoned first. 20 Police halt three. Mr. Minnice went to District Office.

6. Mr. Lawton:--

20 minutes past 12. Whistling and talking. My Department Woollen would not go in to work. Bonus. Weaving people wouldn't let them. Manager's Office sticks and stones. Workpeople did not hear say killing. 1921 not so excited.

~~Resident 3-30 P.M. or 4 P.M.~~

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Residents 3-30 P.M. or 4 P.M. Went to Residency. Rang up don't know. Mr. Mc Leod may have gone after shooting.

7&. Mr. Minnice:-

Started about 3 P.M. Went to District Magistrate's Court. Stone throwing. After 3 P.M. Magistrate wanted. Enquires from Police 1 P.M. Yelahenka Gate Police Station. D.S.P's Office about 3 P.M. To City Magistrate message. Strife and plenty of row. Much disturbance. Please inform City Magistrate. Immediately after motor bike.

8. Mr.P.Srinivasa Rao, Mill Doctor:--

About 2 P.M. Kempia on the nape of neck. died on the spot. Munisawmi shot on nape of neck. Entrance on left and exit on right. 4 died yesterday. 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. 2 injuries Victoria Hospital. 2 of 4 died on spot and removed this morning. Copy of statement of injuries given.

9~~10~~. Mr. Mahammad Hussain:--

2-15 P.M. got telephone. Police Training School men came at about 3 P.M. 3-15 P.M. before City Magistrate came and after Mr. Mahammad Hussain. Mr. Serle 2-30 P.M. came 3 P.M. here. Mr. Mahammad Hussein told Mr. Serle on telephone for 2-35 P.M. or 40 P.M. City Magistrate and District Magistrate. In 10 or 15 minutes City Magistrate and District Magistrate here. Heard of shooting from Mr. Serle. Magistrate 3 P.M. 10 minutes to 3. got message. Reserve men beaten come at once. Policemen about to run; I said will shoot. Mr. Seerle said already shot. Keshava Rao said you will be killed.

10. Mr. Serle:--

5 minutes to 2 P.M. trouble apprehended. Serious

19 113 118

Serious trouble. Anderton 25 men. Havildar Hydari. Not in uniform. Kengeri gate Station 20 past 2. Daffedar City Police Kengeri said P.C. being killed. Inspector Srinivasa Varadachar jumped off Cycle, said being beaten to death. Open fire. Came to West gate. 9 men in uniform. Showers of stone. Fix Bayonets. Go away " 2930 " " 2930 ". I cried. Reinforcing coolies from office square. Stones casuarina logs. Let me go through I will fire, I said. Bala Prasad Daffedar shouted also. Guns fired. Fire one shot. Came 2-30 P.M., fired 2-50 P.M. had just shot with rifle. My men being murdered. Did not send for Magistrate. Mob rushed. I could not let them overthrow us. My order was Havildar and thin admi Ek round fire karo Nichi Aim karo. Dispersed. On right hand side did not know where office was. Md. Hussain before me. But I did not know. When I entered cattledoor, Jamadar of Mills said open out open out. safe road. fixed bayonets. Another shower of stones. fired wild. Watchman grazed 30 or 40 yards. Other 3 men also fired. Wood splinters flew. 2 men seen at corner one groaning one dead. Hydari's party came in. Md. Hussein guarded office. Hydari's party being beaten. Glass broken there. Mahammad Hussein said Fire. I said I have already fired. Where is the Magistrate? Iron bar and bolts and stones. Mill Jamedar opened the cattledoor.

12. Mr. Mc Leod:-

1 P.M. Residency phoned 2 P.M. did not phone to District Magistrate. I.G. of Police 1 P.M.

13. Muniswami:-

In-patient in Victoria Hospital. got no warning.

14. Chinnapille in the Victoria Hospital:--

Got warning but could not run away in time. Put stones

20 114 119

stones on Zinc sheets. Stoned. Telephoned stoned Police man. 3 shots fired. I am in Weaving Section. People of Carding Section did it.

22nd July 1926.

15. Sundaram:--

Watchman whistle after I returned from breakfast.

16. Joseph:-

12-30 P.M. labourers outside. 3 days' time. No agreement, 3 days time. Manager Southwark 5 minutes time. Mill watchman hurt Mestri called will come. I was in front of Manager's house. heard shooting. Keep Quiet I said. Shot about 2 P.M. Went to Dewan's bungalow about 3 P.M. Names not known.

17. Watchman Bapu:-

Post in milling Department. locked at 1-30 P.M. according to order of Superintendent Cumbli Department. Fired. ball from wall fell on me and injured. Who shot don't know. Can't mention names.

18. Arokiasawmy of Boiler examined.

19. Ponnusawmi of Boiler examined.

20. Basappa of Cotton weaving examined. Shots near Boiler section were seen by me.

21. Parthasarathi cotton weaving examined. Pipe near corner mark on wall seen.

22. G.L. Srinivasa cutting department; was present with deadman.

23. Mudligiri in Cumbli Department was present when shots fired.

24. B.C. Rangappa Clerk not shot was close by.

115
21 (170

24. Mr. Murugesham. No crowd in this part only boys. Agitators would not allow people to come in in front gate before demand was granted.

25. Ranga near Boiler seen; was hurt.

26. Mr. Anderton:--

Message 1-30 P.M. Casuarina poles on Police. Manager said we have 3000 rounds of ammunition machine gun. More excited and angry. Joseph pacified. Cowed down after shots; throwing stones at office. Manager said can you telephone. Can't open fire without orders of Magistrate. Magistrate will arrive at spot. 3 men hurt on going to Manager's Office. 134 bleeding much. but not since dangerous.

27. Constable No.134:-

Mob said Why did you come? beat me stones and casuarina poles. I was in Rear force beaten. Came to beat me at window. After corpse came less galate.

28. No.20 Hussein Beg:--

Ladder thrown at us. We just dodged. Stone and casuarina pole. Havildar Balaprasad's Rifle fell. I held my rifle and was hurt.

29. Mir Ahmad Hussein Hyderi:-

Went. Mr. Mellor there. 50 paces inside. took firewood threw on us - called you sons of whores, beaten with stones and sticks. Asked permission of Mellor to open fire. Iron rod thrown on me. Went to Electric Office. there threw water in my mouth and saved me. City Constable at gate para said Serle came. Fixed bayonets. Asked Mellor. Asked District Magistrate power to shoot. Fixed

2nd 116 9/21

Fixed bayonets useless. Hyder went out alone leaving men in Guard room.

30. Srinivasa Varadachar:--

Mellor and I went out as per order of A.I.G. Went to A.S.P's Office. Went to Mills Kengerigate side. C.I.D. Inspector Ramaswamiengar - Can't open go to front gate. Kengerigate Sergeant being chased. Pelting stones and driving us. Ramaswamiengar to A.I.G. to send force at once. Tried to ~~ak~~ follow Special Reserve. Stones were being thrown. We could not go behind special force. Mr. Anderton went by Railway gate north gate. Then Hyder Beg's party came. Mellor telephoned 2-45 P.M. Batons only with City Police. Mr. Md. Hussain A.S.P. did not enter. District Magistrate sent for. Hydari's party asked permission to shoot. Met Mr. Searle. Throwing stones, armed with casuarina poles. 2nd batch stranded in Manager's Office. Mr. Mellor asked Hydari to take shelter.

B Lakshmana Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

117 (25

CONFIDENTIAL.
No.J.C.700/21-22
Encl: Nil.

Office of the District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 27th July 1926.

CS. 164

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit herewith for your information a copy of report No.9 dated 24th July 1926 with a notice received from the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City. The notice was issued by certain members of the Bangalore District Congress Committee inviting the citizens of Bangalore for a Labour Meeting to be held at the Timber Yard near Mill Tank at 6 P.M. on the 24th July 1926, with a view to bring good feelings between the workmen and the Mill Authorities of the Binny Mills.

2. No action by local authorities on behalf of Government appears to be necessary now.

Yours sincerely,

B Sankara Rao

To

P.G. D'Souza, Esqr., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

1st Number
24/7

Confidential. No.9.

To

The District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,

Submitted.

I beg to enclose herein a notice in duplicate in Kannad issued in the name of 6 Bangalore District Congress committee members, announcing a meeting this evening at 6 P.M. in the Timber yard near the Mill tank with a view to bring good feeli between the workmen and the Mill authorities of the Binny Mill Many gentlemen are expected to speak on the subject, and reque the general public to attend.

I beg to state that under the leadership of Messrs. Ram chandra Rao Shindhya Municipal Councillor and member of the Legislative Council, Mysore and Raghavendrachar, B.A., Assista Master, National High School, Bangalore, a labour union was fo in a mass meeting of the mill coolies of the Binny Mills on th 21st instant in the old parade ground of the Mysore Infantry o the Mysore Road when the grievances of the mill employees were heard and a resolution was xx arrived at to represent their grievances to the mill authorities for their favourable consideration. When this body has taken up the cause of the workmen with a view to get some of their grievances redressed, the interference of the District Congress Committee seems to be redundant. This may lead the labourers to be more avaricio and thus discontentment may breed, which may lead to a strike again if the mill authorities do not comply with these request

I shall watch the proceedings with the aid of the Stenographer if the District Congress committee meeting were to come off, and report the result.

Sd. K. Mahammad Hussain,
Assistant Superintendent of Police,
Bangalore City.
24-7-1926.

"Copy"

District Magistrate,
Bangalore District.

ಲೇಬರ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್. 11/12/7

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಡಿ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಕಮಿಟಿ ಪರವಾಗಿ

ಇದೇ ತಿಂಗಳು ಶನಿವಾರ [ತಾ|| 24—7—26]
ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 6 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ಮಿಲ್ ಕರೆ ಬಳಿಇರುವ ಟಿಂಬರ್ ಮೈದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ

ಮಿಲ್ ಕೂಲಿಯವರಿಗೂ ಮಿಲ್ ಅಫಾರಿಟಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಸೌಹಾರ್ದ್ರವನ್ನೂ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪಡಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಅನೇಕ ಮಹನೀಯರು ಈ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ದಯವಿಟ್ಟು ಪುರನಿವಾಸಿಗಳು ಮೀಟಿಂಗಿಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಿ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಕೋರಿಕೆ.

1. ಕೆ. ಜಿ. ಪಶುಪತಿ ಅಯ್ಯರ್
2. ಕೆ. ಟಿ. ಭಾಷ್ಯಂ ಅಯ್ಯಂಗಾರ್
3. ಜೆ. ಭೀಮರಾವ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು. ಡಿ.
ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಕಮಿಟಿ ಆಫೀಸ್,
23—7—26.

4. ರಾಮಮೂರ್ತಿ ಶಿವಾರಿ
5. ಹೆಚ್. ವಿ. ಸುಬ್ರಹ್ಮಣ್ಯಂ
9. ಎ. ಯಂ. ಟಿ. ಆಚಾರ್ಯ

ಮಹಾರಾಜಾ ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಿಟಿ.

(9) CS-185 (120 (122

CONFIDENTIAL.
No. J.C.700/21-22
Encl: one.

Office of the District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 27th 28th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit herewith for your information a copy of report No.11 dated 26th July 1926 received from the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City, submitting a copy of B. Division Police Inspector's report with regard to a meeting held by certain Congress Members on Sunday the 25th instant at the Infantry Parade Maidan with the object of bringing about good feeling between the labour classes and the Mill Authorities, and suggesting the formation of Societies and a Union to enable the labour classes more facilities in their living.

Yours sincerely,

B Venkobarao

To

P.G. D'Souza, Esqr., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore,
B A N G A L O R E.

1st quarter 28/7

Rec 29/7

(123)

S U B M I T T E D.

As per instructions I attended the meeting of the marginally noted Congress persons yesterday afternoon at 2 P.M. at the Infantry Parade Maidan to bring about good feeling between the labour classes and the Mill authorities. But on account of rain no people attended and the Congress persons dispersed. They again met there at 4 P.M., and waited for the people to congregate. At about 4-30 P.M. Messers Ramachandra Rao Sindhe and Raghavendrachar came there with Mr.B.Siva Rao President of the Madras labour union and Mr. Manikyam a member of the said Union. At 5 P.M., about 200 people mostly Binny Mill coolies assembled. Then Mr. Raghavendrachar introduced Mr. Siva Rao to the audience and said that he, Mr. Siva Rao had made a name in Madras in connection with the labour Union and that he had come here to render his assistance to the labourers who were in difficult circumstances. Mr. Siva Rao then addressed the audience in English and Mr. Manikyam translated his speech in Tamil. Mr. Siva Rao began his speech saying that he was glad to address them that evening that he had come to know all their grievances and that he had come to help them as far as he can. He said that a labour Union was started in Madras in 1921 after the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills strike, that when that Union was started there were only 300 members in it and that its strength was now 9000, that other Unions such as Railway Union, Tramway Union, Postal Union, Printing Union, Kerosine Oil Union, etc., had since sprung up, that the Madras labour Union was working very satisfactorily now although it had to undergo lot of difficulties at the beginning that this Union had brought into force what is called "Workman compensation

1. Mr.K.T.Bhasyam Iyengar, (Advocate).
2. Mr.Bhima Rao,
3. Mr.Ramalal Thivari,
4. Mr.H.V.Subramhanyam,
5. Mr.Raghavan.

Act" by which if a cooly met with an accidental death in the Mill while at work his family or claimants would get his 2½ years pay and that there was provision in it for minor enquiries also. He quoted an instance which occurred lately in which a woman who had lost one of her fingers claimed Rs.42/- according to rules but the Manager Mr. Kay offered only Rs.21/-. She did not accept and the matter was before the Commissioner for orders. Then he said that he had gone to England last year, seen the workers of this British trade Union Congress and enlisted their sympathies that the Congress had come to the rescue of the workmen. of the several Mills who had struck work in Bombay last year and contributed £1000/- when those workmen had no employments for 10 or 12 weeks. He pointed out the benefit of the Union that they are going to have such as opening of a co-operative stores, a House building Society etc., He assured them that there were other persons who would watch their interest and that they need not fear that in times of difficulty they would be left to themselves. He told them that he had complained to his friends here about the working of his office at Madras, how a complaint register had been opened in which every complaint of the labour would be duly entered on receipt and communicated to the Manager of the Mill atonce for redress no matter if it was not attended to. He stated that such complaints would have their effect in due course. In the course of his speech Mr. Siva Rao mentioned that he would not say anything about the deaths that occurred in the Binny Mills recently as the matter was under police investigation. As soon as his speech was closed Mr. Raghavendrachar thanked Mr. Siva Rao on behalf of the audience for having taken the trouble of coming to Bangalore all the way from Madras among his multifarious duties and given his valuable advice to the labourers.

Immediately it was declared that a Union called "The

123 (124

"The Bangalore Textile labour Union" was started and that Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe was enlisted as President and Mr. Raghavendrachar as Secretary. About 40 persons who had already become members were asked to go to Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe's office this evening and pay up their subscriptions. It was further announced that there would be a mass meeting on Wednesday evening at Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe's office at Chamarajapet.

I had seen Mr.Raghavendrachar who had got up this Union on the 24th afternoon when he told me that some resolutions had already been drawn up on behalf of the workmen and that copies of the same had been sent to the Mill authorities and to the Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore.

The lecture of Mr. Siva Rao commenced at 5 P.M., and ended at 7 P.M. No congress member or any other spoke. About 200 people had collected. When everything was over I heard the Congress people saying that they should meet at the Minerva Mills this morning on behalf of the workmen there. I was present at the Minerva Mills this morning. No Congress member turned up. The workmen had struck work. But there were no signs of any violence. All the same I had posted an officer and 4 men there to look up and report progress.

Sd. S. Kesava Rao,
Inspector of Police,
B. Division.

No.11. Office of the Asst. Supdt. of Police,
Dated, Bangalore City, 26th July 1926.

Copy of the above is submitted in continuation of my confidential report No.10 dated 24th July 1926.

Sd. K. Mahammad Hussain,

Assistant Superintendent of Police,
Bangalore City.

"Copy"

B Venkata Rao Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

Rao

(10)

124

128

D.O. No. C.C. 26/26 Office of the District Magistrate,

Bangalore District,

Dated, Bangalore, the 28th July 1926.

Dear Sir,

In re: Disturbance in the Binny Mills, I submit herewith as desired a letter and a statement obtained from the Medical Officer in charge of the Victoria Hospital showing the Reserve Police Officers and Constables that attended the Victoria Hospital for treatment together with the nature of the injury and treatment given to them.

Yours sincerely,

To

K. Chandy, Esqr., B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

No. R 605

Office of the Victoria Hospital,

Bangalore, Dated 27-7-1926.

Dear Sir,

Your letter No. C.C.26/26 dated 26-7-1926. I herewith send a detailed statement showing the names of persons of the Reserve Police Force and the injuries sustained by them in the recent Binny Mill strike. The treatment given to them is also noted for your information.

Yours sincerely,
S. Subba Rao
Medical Officer In Charge,
Victoria Hospital,
Bangalore.

To

B. Venkoba Rao Esq., B.A.,
District Magistrate,
Bangalore.

Detailed tabulated form showing the names of the members of the Reserve Police Force, who attended the hospital treatment and certificate, for injuries said to have been sustained during the recent Binny Mill strike.

117

Rank and Number.	Name.	Date of Admission.	Date of Discharge.	Nature of Injury.	Treatment.	Remarks.
Naik.129.	Jagannaikalu.	23-7-26.	23-7-26.	Wound- head.	Paint. Tinct. Iodine.	Did not appear the next day.
C.No. 20.	Hussain Beig.	-do-	-do-	Contusions.(2 small ones).	-do-	-do-
do- 45.	Boraiah.	-do-	-do-	-do- (only one).	-do-	-do-
-do- 96.	Sheik Amir.	-do-	-do-	Abrasions.(Two).	-do-	-do-
-do- 87.	Abdul Hakim.	-do-	-do-	Contusion. (one).	-do-	-do-
-do- 113.	Chidamma Naidu.	-do-	-do-	Abrasion. (one).	-do-	-do-
-do- 145.	David.	-do-	-do-	Contusion. (one).	-do-	-do-
Naik No.3.	Balaram.	-do-	-do-	Contusions. (Three).	-do-	-do-
-do- 2.	Papiah.	-do-	-do-	Contusion. (one).	-do-	-do-
Havildar No.1.	Mir Hussain Hydri.	-do-	27-7-26.	Abrasions. (Three).	-do-	
C.Naik. 27.	Mannaji Rao.	-do-	-do-	Scratches.	-do-	
-do- 65.	Rangaswamy.	-do-	-do-	Wound, hip and knee.	-do-	
C.No. 32.	Peter.	-do-	-do-	Contusions. (Two).	-do-	
-do- 62.	Abdul Rahimon.	-do-	-do-	Scratches, (only one).	-do-	
-do- 50.	Md. Ghouse.	-do-	-do-	Contusion. (only one).	-do-	
-do- 58.	Gopal Naik.	-do-	-do-	Abrasions. (Three).	-do-	
-do- 115.	Ekambaram Mudr.	-do-	-do-	Contusions. (Two).	-do-	
-do- 136.	Sheik Ismail.	-do-	-do-	-do- (Two).	-do-	
	Shama Prasad.	-do-	-do-	Wound, eye lid.	-do-	
		24-7-26	-do-	Sprain		

1-7-26.	Wound, head.	-do- and [illegible] is still attending. dressing.
-do-	Synovitis knee.	Scott's dressing. -do-.
-do-	Wound, head.	Paint Tinct. Iodine and dressing. -do-.

S. Subba Rao

Medical Officer In Charge,

Victoria Hospital, Bangalore.

(11)

127

130

No. C.C. 76/26

Office of the District Magistrate,
Bangalore District,
Dated, Bangalore, the 2nd August 1926.

Cheques with Confl. one.
Please pour with file
& retn file tomorrow, if possible

Dear Sir,

3/8

You had asked me whether there was non-official evidence available with regard to the shooting at the Binny Mills. Mr. Bowring said that there were people at the Mills who were in the upper story at the time the shooting took place. Accordingly some witnesses were examined this morning and copies of their statements are herewith submitted. The Inspector General of Police and the City Magistrate were present on the occasion.

2. It will be seen that the statements now submitted differ from one another in some respects. This is natural, as the position of the witnesses and their opportunities and powers of observation differed. The evidences of certain witnesses is apparently also biassed. But there is remarkable corroboration of the evidence of the Reserve Police Officers and men on certain points. The Reserve Police fixed bayonets as soon as they saw the crowd, there was a raising of hands by the Reserve Police to dissuade the crowd from throwing stones, but the stone throwing continued; there was a shot fired in the air, but still the shower of stones continued; the fire arms were deliberately loaded and pointed at the crowd; but the crowd dispersed only after the shots.

3. Some of the witnesses say that there was no warning that shots would be fired, but the voice may not have been heard among the shouts and in the rear of the crowd, though the shot in the air everyone should have noticed, and the deliberate loading and pointing of the rifles and the raising of the hands to dissuade the crowd

must have been also noticed by the crowd. Witness 10 Venkatasawmi speaks of a rifle being forced out of the hand of a Policeman, and Witness9 Balayya speaks of a ladder though he does not say that it was thrown down.

4. All things considered, it appears to me, that as there was some excess on both sides, a view merciful to both sides may be taken and the rioters need not be prosecuted on the one hand and Mr. Searle need not be severely dealt with on the other.

Yours sincerely,

B Sivarao

To

K. Chandy, Esqr., B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

Under Section 176 Cr. P. Code.

Statement of Annamalai:--

Father:- Annamalai.

Residence:- Tirupattur.

Age:- 22

Occupation:- Cutting Department.

Solemnly Affirmed.

I was near the Manager's office. People were asking and throwing stones. Some stones fell on me. I went therefore towards my Department and was standing after drinking water. Policemen came from the side of the Cattle Shed. The coolies from the Manager's office came with stones and sticks and beat the Policemen who came by the Cattle shed. I was standing there near the water pipe. The Police Officer in command said "Don't do it, Don't do it" and raised his hands to ask for stoppage of stone throwing. The coolies continued to throw stones and firewood at the Policemen. The Police Officer said "Don't ~~do~~ Don't" and then fired. The Police Officer fired one shot above. At the second firing a boy was hurt. I don't know his name as he belongs to another Department. I did not hear if the Police Officer said "I am firing ". The crowd was not frightened even when the rifle was pointed at them. A shot overhead struck a watchman, but I escaped the shot. Then I went into the Fitter's place near the Boiler and came out only after the disturbance subsided. The Reeling Department is in the Upper Storey. I don't know which members of the Reeling Department have come here. There was a ladder there to go up to the Reeling Department.

Read and Admitted to be correct.

2nd August 1926. Sd. B. Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

"Copy"

B. Venkoba Rao
District Magistrate, Bangalore Dt.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.2. Statement of Nanjappa:--

Father's name:- Kempanna.

Residence:-- Mill Road.

Age:-- 55.

Occupation:-- Employed in Mills in Reeling Department.

Solemnly Affirmed:--

There was a disturbance. I was in the upper storey. Bala, Kulla, Sinappa, Samidorai and Aden a girl were in the upper storey. All belong to the Reeling Department except Samidorai who belongs to the Spinning Department. We did not go out. Bala and Kulla, are mestri. Sivappa is a writer. Sawmidorai is a Spinning Mestri. People ~~x~~ ran to a side. We also began seeing the other side to see where people were going. We were at first looking at the Manager's office. The Police were standing there when we turned. Mill hands were standing there. Mill hands were throwing stones on the Police men. The Police officer said 2 or 3 times 'Don't do it' and raised their hands in protest. There was a Saheb among them. He also said 2 or 3 times ' ಬೇಡ ಬೇಡ '. The stones continued to be thrown. The Saheb gave orders to the Police to load the firearms. ಬಂದೂಕುವನ್ನು ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಹೇಳಿದರು. The crowd were looking on. The Saheb took a firearm and fired once. The shot did not fire any one. It was probably not fired at any one. The crowd continued to throw stones at the Police. The Saheb then gave orders to fire. I was at a distance and did not hear the exact words in which the order to fire was given. We moved to a side on the upper storey lest we should be hurt by the shots. The shots were heard by us. We went away further on the upper storey. A short while after, one man was rolling and shrieking there. He had been shot. I saw

saw him from another window. There was no ladder near the window. I was 30 or 40 yards away and there was galata. I did not hear what the Saheb said. When the Policemen raised their hands in protest, the Policemen may have spoken but I did not hear them.

Read and Admitted to be correct.

2nd August 1926. Sd. B. Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

"Copy "

B Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate,
Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.3. Balayya.

Father's name.	Virasawmi Mudaliar.
Residence.	Gowdanpet.
Age.	35
Occupation.	Reeling in Binny Mills.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in the Reeling Department upstairs. People were asking. The big Saheb asked for 3 days. People joined together and went to Manager's office and threw stones and firewood. I was upstairs. People came rushing on another side with stones and firewood shouting. We saw them from the window. The coolies adults and boys all threw stones and firewood. We saw from the window. A Saheb and 4 Policemen came from a side with fire arms on their shoulders. The coolies threw stones and fire wood at the Policemen. The Saheb fired a shot overhead. The crowd again threw stones and rushed; seeing the firing, we moved away inside on the upper floor. Then we opened the window after the shots and saw injured people. The Policemen raised their hands asking for stoppage of stone throwing. I did not hear if the Police men spoke anything. I did not see a ladder there.

Questions by City Magistrate Mr. H.V. Ramaswami. By I.G.P. nil

I did not notice who exactly threw stones. There were so many.

Read and Admitted to be correct.

2nd August 1926. Sd. B. Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

"Copy"

B. Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.4. Kulla.

Father's name:- Munisawmappa

Age:- 35

Residence Bangalore.

Occupation Cumbli Mills, Reeling Department.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in the upper storey on the day of disturbance. Boys rushed. I saw through the window. The boys big and small were throwing stones. The Police were standing. They raised their hands asking for stoppage of stone throwing. I moved away ~~from~~ seeing the shots. The Saheb fired a shot in the air and showed the people ಮೇಲಕ್ಕೆ ಸುಟ್ಟು ಹೊಡೆದರು. The Saheb did not speak. We were upstairs and could not have heard what the Saheb spoke. After the shot was fired overhead in the air, I moved away and did not see further details.

To I.G of Police:-

"ನಮ್ಮ ಮಂಚಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದು ಹುಮ್ಮಸ್ಸಿನಿಂದ ನಾಲ್ಕು ಹೊಡೆದು ಬಿಡುತ್ತೇವೆ"

said the Saheb to the crowd. As the crowd was rushing and throwing stones, the Saheb fired a shot in the air. Then I went away inside after the first shot. I did not see a ladder there.

To City Magistrate:-

About 10 or 20 people were throwing stones. The boys were some of them as old as myself and some were older.

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,

2nd August 1926. District Magistrate.

" Copy "

B. Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate,
Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.5. Sivappa.

Father's Name. Mariappa.

Age. 36.

Occupation Reeling Department, Cumbli Mills.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

By the cattle Gate 5 or 6 Policemen and an Officer came. I found afterwards that he was an officer. I was upstairs in the Reeling Department. About 30 people rushed from above to the cattleshed side. The Saheb and the Policemen were met by a shower of stones by the crowd which consisted of adults boys. Then the Policemen and officer pacified the crowd and said 'Don't throw stones at us'. The crowd began to throw stones all the more. Then the Saheb fired a shot in the air. The crowd still continued to throw stones and casuarina poles. After the shot in the air, we went away from the window. Then 5 or 6 shots were heard. Then there was galata and there were injured people and there were shouts. One was rolling in pain. In a corner one man died.

ಕೆಳಗೆ ಬಿದ್ದು ಬಿಟ್ಟಿ ನಂತರ ಮೇಲೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟಿ ಬಿ

said the Saheb. After the air shot we went away from the window. There was no ladder there.

Examination by the I.G.P.

I cannot say how many people were throwing stones. There were 30 or 40 throwing stones.

~~Cross-examination~~ Questions by City Magistrate Nil.

Redd and admitted correct

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,

2nd August 1926. District Magistrate,

" Copy "

B. Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore Dist.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.6. Sawmi Dorai.

Father Masilamani.

Age 48.

Occupation Binny Mills, Spinning Department.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

Boys were throwing stones. They came rushing and was near ~~Rxixxxy~~ Reeling upstairs. We came to window of Reeling to see where the boys were rushing. The boys were of all ages. Policemen came by the lane. There was a Dorai with them. Boys were throwing stones and firewood at them. The Policemen were standing and they advanced. Stone throwing became more fierce. The Saheb asked the crowd to retire raising his hands. The crowd did not ~~notice~~ retire. They continued to throw stones and firewood. The Saheb then pointed a fire arm at the crowd. The crowd continued to throw stones even then. Then there was a shot. The Saheb returned the firearm to the Sepoy and the Policemen then fired in a line. Then we moved away. I did not hear the Saheb as he was far away, but I saw him raise his hand to the crowd as a gesture to ask them to go away. Then we saw the injured man through the window. I did not see a ladder there. Then the galata subsided.

X Examination by I.G.P. Nil

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

" Copy "

B. Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.7. Rangasawmi.

Father's Name Vedachelam Pillay.

Age 40.

Residence. Mills, Spinning.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in the Reeling Department near the window. Sepoys came and stood. They showed firearms to the people. Boys threw stones at the Policemen . The Sepoys raised their hands to dissuade the crowd from throwing stones. The firearm of one of the sepoys fell down on account of the stone throwing. Then the firearms were loaded. The Saheb shot first. Six Sepoys had come I think. About ~~four~~ four Sepoys shot after the first shot. I did not see any ladder thrown down.

Examination by I.G.P. and City Magistrate. Nil.

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

"C o p y"

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.S.	Kalayya.
Father's Name	Yelavegowda.
Age	30.
Occupation	Cutting Department, Mills.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

We were sitting downstairs near the door of ~~xxxxx~~ Cutting Department. Some people came to drink water and went away. Some boys were standing there. We went near the Hospital to go home. " The gates ~~xxxx~~ are locked, go back." said some people. I was going home towards the cattlegate afterwards. The Reserve Police came opposite to us. They pointed their fire-arms at us. I ran back and stood under cover of a wall. Shots were fired. A man fell down shot. I went ~~with~~ into a mechanic shop and sat by the side of a box. I was trembling. Then you (District Magistrate) came. Then I got courage and went home. Boys threw stones. Who threw stones and on whom I do not know. I saw no ladder. The Policemen did not say they were going to shoot. They pointed their firearms at us.

No questions by I.G.P. and City Magistrate.

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

"Copy"

B. Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.9. Balayya.

Father's Name Kapinayya.

Age about 45.

Occupation Cutting Department.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in Cutting Department at door. The people were near Manager's Office. From Reeling, people came to drink water. From cattle shed side, Reserve Police came and shot people. There was no stone throwing. The ladder was at the door of the Cutting Department. The ladder was standing and did not fall down. After the [illegible] the ladder was taken inside. The Policemen came by the side of the ladders and went towards the Office. The Police did not say that they would ~~shot~~ shoot people, before they shot.

Examination by I.G.P. and by City Magistrate. | Nil.

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

"Copy"

B Venkoba Rao

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.10 Mari.
Father Venkatasami
Age says 40.
Occupation: Watchman.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in the lane in woollen teasing downstairs. Reserve Policemen and Dorai came. I said in reply that I was a watchman. The Policemen fixed bayonets according to the order of the Dorai. Then the Dorai gave orders to load the firearms. Then the Policemen took their firearms on the slope according to the orders of the Dorai. The Policemen then moved ~~down~~ on for 20 yards. The rifles were shown to the people there. The people threw stones after that. It was not before, that stones were thrown because the Policemen were far off. The Dorai then took a rifle from a Reserve Policeman and fired. The crowd still remained and threw stones at the Police. The Reserve Police then fired. Then the crowd dispersed. There were injured people after wards.

× Cross Examination by I.G.P. Nil.

× Cross Examination by City Magistrate:-

If the first shot hurt any one. I do not know I was behind. I was in the Military before I am a pensioner. I did not hear the order for shooting. The Dorai was in Civil dress and had no rifle himself.

Read and admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

"Copy"

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

T.11.	Arunachelam.
Father	Ganapathi.
Age	22.
Occupation	Maistri Bundle band.

Solemnly Affirmed:-

I was in my room bale cutting room. Mr.Thompson came. People went with sticks from Manager's Office and went to lane and returned and broke windows of the Hospital. The people again rushed back to the lane. I don't know what happened there. From there a boy came out and fell near the door of my room. I saw no ladder.

Examination by I.G.P. and City Magistrate. Nil.

Read and Admitted correct.

Sd/ B.Venkoba Rao,
District Magistrate.

2nd August 1926.

"C o p y"

District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

No 604/C.B 27.9.46

To 141

The Managing Directors,
Benny Mills, Bangalore.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to request you to kindly let me know, if any compensation, gratuity &c., has been paid to the heirs of the persons killed or injured during the recent shooting in connection with the Mill Strike.

Yours sincerely,

B
10/8/46

CB-335

The Bangalore Woollen, Cotton & Silk Mills Co. Ltd.

142

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS. WOOLLEN, BANGALORE.

DEWAN'S OFFICE. Received on 1 - SEP. 1926 Reg. No. 1655

Bangalore City, 13th August, 1926.

P. G. D'Souza Esqr., B.A., B.L.,

DEWAN'S OFFICE. Received on 30. AUG. 1926 Reg. No. 1559

Chief Secretary to Government,

General and Revenue Secretariat,

BANGALORE.

Dear Mr.D'Souza,

I am in receipt of your No.D.C.604/CB.of the 10th instant and have pleasure in sending herewith a statement showing the amounts paid to the heirs and dependents of the persons killed during the shooting on July 20th. After very careful investigation it was found desirable to grant the compensation to the persons who had been actually dependent on the men killed, and who were not in receipt of regular pay.

The men who were wounded were given full pay during their absence from the mill.

The amounts paid to the nominees of the men killed under the headings:- Gratuity fund, Bonus & Pay were distributed automatically, and are quite apart from the matter of compensation. Although we are not responsible for what happened on the 20th July last, and are not bound in any way to compensate the dependents of the men who last

	Funeral Expenses.	Funeral Ceremony Expenses.	Gratuity Fund.	Bonus for Jany:/June 1926.	Pay to July 20th 1926.	Total excluding pensions	Pensions to be paid per month.
						RUPEES.	
the to ension the f a on. We employ- .	RS.70/-/-	---	RS.92/6/4	RS. 9/2/3	Rs. 9/12/9	431/5/4	5/-/-for life.
the - nsion a - -	Rs.50/-/-	30/-/-	31/6/7	16/13/6	17/14/0	346/2/1	7/-/- for 5 years.
hem o return place. m - e Mill.	Rs.50/0/0	---	46/12/2	8/4/9	8/3/6	563/4/5	---
the pay, a - per ill be eaves Rs.50/- ds - bts. - to be the time -per	RS.50/0/0	---	0/4/5	---	6/13/-	207/1/5	7/-/- for life after leaving our employment. 5/-/- for life.

Total Rs.1,547.13.3 Rs 24/- per month.

PERSONS KILLED.	Nominee noted in Deceased's Gratuity Fund Book.	Persons who claimed to be dependents.	Relation to Deceased.	Compensation.
Gengiah.	Byrappa. (Maternal Uncle.)	Hanumanthappa. Kempiah. Hanummakkah Krishnappa. Byrappa	Brother. " Sister Brother-in-law Uncle.	He is employed in Mill and drawing regular pay. Rs.250/- was given this man. Rs.5/- per month for life. He is employed in Mill and drawing regular pay. He is in receipt of Government Pens: have offered him ment in the Mill
Gopalsawmy.	Veerappen. (Father.)	Veerappen. Natesan Meenatchey.	Father. Brother. Sister.	He is employed in Mill and drawing regular pay. - " - - " - Rs.7/-per month pe for 5 years and dowry of Rs.200/ when married.
Ramasawmy.	Adamma (Concubine)	Adamma Nangamma Kuniamah Rungiah.	Concubine Mother Wife. Brother.	Rs.450/-given to as they wished to their native We have offered h employment in t
Kempiah.	Thimmey (Wife.	Thimmey. Borey Mayee	Wife. Daughter. Mother.	She is employed i Mill on regular pension of Rs.7/ month for life paid after she our employment, to be paid towa settlement of d A dowry of Rs.100/ given to her at of her marriage A pension of Rs.5/ month for life.

Bangalore City,

13th August, 1926.

D. O. No. 90/Spl

Confidential.

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, dated 17th August 1926

145

Dear Sir,

As desired, I forward herewith a note regarding the amount of leave at credit of Mr. S.C. Searle, Assistant Superintendant of Police, and the pension to which he will be entitled. The Officer is for purposes of audit treated as a Non-Gazetted Officer and his service record is not therefore maintained by this office. The information has however been obtained from the Office of the Inspector General of Police unofficially. The amount of pension stated to be admissible may be kindly treated as a rough figure since it has to be verified by this office.

Yours sincerely,

M. Raghavachar

To,

K. Chandy Esq., B.A.,

First Member of Council,

Bangalore.

Brief note re--the service of Mr. S.G. Searle, Assistant Superintendant of Police.

146

Date of birth. .... 9-2-1875.

Date of entry into service .... 1-7-1901.

Promoted to Rs.150/- on 10-5-1918.

He was on combined leave (on military duty) from 10-11-1915 to end of November 1919, which period qualifies for pension as per G.O. No. G.12889/939 dated 20-5-1915.
G.M.141-14-133

He was on Leave without Allowances from 1-12-1919 to 10-10-20 a period which does not qualify for pension.

Promoted to Rs.200/- from 1-1-1926.

He is entitled to (1) Privilege Leave for 4 months
(2) Furlough on full pay 2 months and
Furlough on half pay one year and
four months.

He has been on suspension since 21-7-1926. If the period of suspension is treated as Leave with Allowances he will be entitled to a pension of Rs.94-14-0 roughly at the expiry of the leave to which he is entitled, in case he is granted leave.

Deputy Comptroller.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

In reply please refer to No. 406 TADA

Comptroller's Office, Bangalore,

Dated the 26th August 192 6

Dear Sir,

After writing to you on the 17th instant, regarding the amount of leave and pension to which Mr. H. G. Searle, Assistant Superintendent of Police, would be entitled to, his service register was obtained from the Inspector General of Police and from a detailed examination of the register, it is seen that he was holding only an acting appointment at the commencement of his service, from 1st July 1901 to 17th September 1903 which does not entitle him to a qualifying service for pension. Further, it is not clear whether any portion of his absence on Military Duty has to be regarded as leave to which he was then entitled.

Assuming

Assuming that the leave earned by him remained at his credit on his return from Military Duty he will be entitled to combined leave for two years of which four months can be privilege leave, 2 months furlough on full pay and the rest furlough on half pay. If he is granted this leave and retired at the end of that period, he will be entitled to a pension of R70-10-0, since his net qualifying service will then be only 22 years 11 months and 25 days. If however, he is retired from the date on which he is placed under suspension, he will be entitled to a pension of R55-12-0 only.

Yours sincerely,
A. Raghavendra

K. Chandy, Esq., B.A.,
First Member of Council,
Bangalore.

C. 13

HSR

Draft.

Read:-

Report of the Assistant to the Inspector General of Police on the occurrence at the Bangal Woollen and Cotton Mills on the 20th July 1926 with enclosures.

2. Report of the District Magistrate, Bangalore No. C.C.26/26, dated 22nd July 1926, ~~with notes of evidence recorded by him~~.

3. Further report of the District Magistrat No.C.C.26/26, dated 23rd July 1926, submitting the report of the City Magistrate regarding the enquir held by him.

4. Further report of the District Magistrat No.C.C.26/26, dated 26th July 1926, submitting the evidence recorded by the City Magistrate, ~~and the notes recorded by himself~~.

5. Report of the Inspector General of Police in Mysore No. 163/26, dated 26th July 1926.

6. Further report of the Inspector General of Police in Mysore ~~Nax~~, dated 27th July 1926, forwarding evidence of the witnesses recorded by him.

7. Further report of the District Magistrat dated 27th July 1926, submitting notes made by him during the summary enquiry.

8. Further report ~~from~~ of the District Magistrate, dated 28th July 1926, forwarding a list of reserve police officers and constables that attended the victoria hospital for treatment.

9. Further report ~~from~~ of the District Magistrate, dated 2nd August 1926, forwarding the evidence of further witnesses examined in respect of the occurrence.

N.O.F. 1199-200 / Pol 57-26
of 4th Sept 26

The papers read above raise two principal issues in the matter of Police Shooting and Killing four men on the occasion of the strike at the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills on the 20th July 1926.

(1) Whether the circumstances were such as to justify firing on the crowd at all, and

(2) whether the firing which did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders regulating such actions or not.

The witnesses who speak to the first point fall into three groups viz.

(1) the superior staff of the Mill,

(2) the Police

(3) the work-people.

In addition to this there is the testimony of the officers of Government who visited the spot after the occurrence.

The oral evidence shows that the staff of the mills regarded the disturbance as very serious. The evidence of the higher staff of the Mills is supplemented by a large number of messages sent by them by telephone and telegraph and by messengers asking for the assistance of the police, the Military and even of armoured cars and by the evidence of the actual damage done to the premises and as to the missiles etc. found after the occurrence. Oneof these witnesses states that the crowd was in a frenzy and calling on the others to murder the police and if the police had not opened fire forcibly all would have been killed

Another witness also states that from what had happened with the crowd had the firing not taken place their lives were not worth a candle and the police came in the nick of time and saved the situation. The same witness who inspected the scene of firing after the occurrence was over says that he found numerous stones, 35 casaurina billets several other large pieces of wood, a wooden hammer and an iron bolt among the missiles that had been thrown at the police. Even the hospital was attacked and partly wrecked and the doctor in charge says 'the Reserve Police stepped in at the right moment else they would have probably assaulted me'. Some at least of the higher staff considered that there was such grave danger in the situtation that they did not leave the office in which they had taken refuge till 4-30- or 5 P.M. in the afternoon long after the firing had taken place. It also appears from the evidence of the Inspector Anderton that the manager of the Mills had been urging the necessity for firing by the earlier party before the party which did the firing had arrived on the scene.

4. The policemen engaged fall mainly into four groups:--

1. The City Police under the Assistant Superintendent, Mr.Muhammad Hussain

(2) a first party of 25 Reserve Police under Inspector Anderton,

(3) a second party of 9 Reserve Police under Havildar Ahmed Hussain Haidari,

(4) a third party also of 9 Reserve Police under Assistant Superintendent Mr.Searle.

They were unable to force an entry into the premises.

The City Police who arrived first on the scene were armed only with batons and the Assistant Superintendent has given evidence to the effect that he had to threaten to shoot the men to induce them to advance at all. Even so, neither he nor they were able to force their way into the mill. The first party of 25 Reserve Police under Inspector Anderton made their way in with fixed bayonets and reached the manager's office, which is 100 yards from the gate, with the greatest difficulty, six of the men receiving injuries on the way. Having got in, they were unable to control the situation and were besieged in the mill office from which they found it impossible to extricate themselves except by extreme measures. The Manager asked the officer in charge of this party to open fire but the Inspector had been instructed by the Assistant to the Inspector-General not to fire without the orders of the Magistrate, which he endeavoured to obtain. The Assistant Superintendent for Railways and C.I.D. who had been sent meanwhile to report on the position of affairs had telephoned to the Assistant Inspector-General that the situation was grave. The third party, again with fixed bayonets, forced part of their way in but were beaten back with stones, wooden poles and iron rods, and the officer in charge had to take refuge in the Electric Office outside the Mill while his men went into the Time Office. The leader was hurt with an iron weapon and three of his men also received severe injuries.

They were rescued by Mr.Searle after the firing. The officer in charge of this party also asked for permission to fire from a C.I.D. Inspector who was with him. The fourth party, which was responsible for the firing were informed that there was a very serious situation, one account being that the other Police officers were being badly beaten and likely to be murdered, and another that the Manager had been injured and tied up in his office. They found so large a crowd at the main gate that it was impossible to force their way in, and so tried to take the crowd in the rear and go to the rescue of their comrades, through a cattle gate in the south-east. There, after they had got some little way in, they found themselves faced by a menacing crowd of 200 to 300 coolies whose object was to prevent the police from advancing and to send them back. Several of the policemen were injured by the numerous missiles and by a ladder which was thrown down upon them from an upper part of the building. They remostrated repeatedly with the crowd, asked them several times to give way(i.e. leave a passage) and warned them. This had no effect. They were all struck repeatedly with stones, casuarina billets, etc. and half of them more or less badly injured. Finally Mr.Searle seized a gun from one of the men and fired a shot above the heads of the rioters which only drove them to make a rush towards the policemen. Mr.Searle then gave the order to fire as the alternative to being overpowered by the crowd with the risk that their arms would be taken away from them and turned against them. The evidence of the police is supported by the fact that out of 43 men engaged 23 resorted to the

After the danger of disobedience by armed men unloaded Rifles are taken & the Men may.

Victoria Hospital for treatment of their injuries in addition to the men who received first aid from the mill doctor.

The evidence of the workmen is very variable. While some of them admit that the temper of the crowd showed signs of having been inflamed there is a large majority that minimise the seriousness of the disturbance and suggest that the firing was unprovoked. It is not natural to expect any disinterested testimony from them and their statements are contradicted by evidence of credible witnesses as well as by material facts and are also demonstrably false in several particulars.

The evidence of the officers who visited the spot after the occurrence shows that a considerable amount of damage was done to the buildings, all the windows in the office for instance being broken and that a large number of missiles had been used against the police. It shows also that by the time the officers in question reached the mill, the violence of the crowd had abated, though the City Magistrate, who was the first to arrive, found the crowd defiant in attitude and had much difficulty in forcing an entrance. But there has to be considered with this evidence the fact that the witnesses, and especially the superior officers of the mills are practically unanimous in saying that the firing had had an immediate effect in settling the temper of the crowd. As one witness says ' there was a spark which lasted about 3 or 4 minutes and everything was quiet. Everybody felt safe to move about'. Thus the

the fact that the danger had passed by the time the Magistrates arrived on the scene cannot be taken as showing that no danger had existed.

On the whole, the Government find that regrettable as the firing was, the temper and actions of the mob appear to have been such as to necessitate a resort to this extreme method of quelling the disturbance.

There remains the question whether the firing that did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders that have been framed on the subject, and which are devised to reduce injury or loss of life on such occasions to the minimum compatible with ~~question~~ the disturbance. The orders chiefly in point are the following:--

(1) The ammunition served out shall be buckshot. Blank cartridges shall not be carried under any circumstances.

(2) The mob shall be kept at a distance, so that the police shall not be overwhelmed by a rush.

(3) Full and sufficient warning shall be given to the rioters by the Civil Officer or the officer in command of the Police, as the case may be, of the consequences of failure to disperse.

(4) The practice of firing over the heads of the crowd is strictly forbidden.

(5) The order of fire shall be given only in the last resort, when it is impossible to disperse the mob by any other means, but when the order is given the firing shall be at once effective and such as, with the minimum of injury to convince the crowd of the necessity of immediately dispersing.

(6) File firing, section firing and volley firing shall be used according to the distance that separates the mob from the police or the life or property of members of the public are exposed.

The first of these orders raises a difficult question. The use of buckshot is prescribed in order to minimise danger to the crowd, but can only be enforced where the Reserve Police are armed with weapons which will take buckshot cartridges. The Mysore Reserve Police which had formerly been armed with a variety of absolete weapons, were in 1925 re-armed in pursuance of a general scheme framed by the Government of India with .303 single-loading rifles sighted to 500 yards. These rifles will not takebuckshot cartridges, and the officer in charge had therefore no other alternative than to use ammunition which it is possible to fire out of the weapons supplied.

The .303 rifle has great carrying power and the bullet whether aimed at the crowd or at the ground is likely to cause serious injuries. Mr.Searle says that he first ordered three men to fire one round on the ground. The Havildar says that he heard Mr.Searle gave the command that one Naik and three men should fire. The men say however that they heard only the order to fire one round. While one says they fired direct at the crowd, another says they fired upwards at an angle of 60' and a third that they fired pointing below. The truth of the matter is perhaps to be found in the evidence of a fourth. "In the gâlata we raised our guns and fired. We did not see whether the shots went high or low." The evidence as to the nature of the wounds which were examined on the spot by the mill doctor indicates that some

of the hits were direct, others the result of ricochets from above and below.. thus two of the wounds, described as gun shot wounds in the abdomen and the neck respectively seem likely to be the result of direct hits; three other wounds described as a lacerated wound in the thigh, a gaping wound in the hip and a gaping wound above the umbilicus may have been due to ricochets off the ground, another which shattered all the bones of the back of the skull was probably due to a ricochet off a wall behind the sufferer, in which connection it may be mentioned that a watchman in the mill also speaks to a ball 'falling on him from a wall'.

As regards keeping the mob at a distance, it would appear that the police did all that could be expected of them except in one respect which will be referred to later. Though some say the crowd were 60 yards away at the time of firing took place the majority state the distance as 30: and it is in evidence that there was a rush forward after the first shot above the heads of the crowd, which might have resulted in the police being overpowered and deprived of their weapons by the rioters who contained among them some ex-sepoys who had been to the war and ex-special reserve men.

As regards the warnings, the men of the party and the officer in charge are unanimous in saying that Mr.Searle went forward and tried to pacify the crowd speaking in English, Tamil and Hindustani and that they all remonstrated repeatedly with them and warned them that they would shoot if they did not give way, and to any one who is acquainted with the character of the average constable it is almost incredible that

that they would have kept silence in such a situation. There is evidence in support of this verbal warning by one of the men who was wounded and who was examined in the hospital immediately after the occurrence. There is also a large body of evidence of workmen who were in the upper storeys of the mill that the constables warned the crowd by signs and by aiming unloaded rifles at them and that the officer in charge finally took a rifle and fired a round over the heads of the crowd himself. The evidence that there was no warning is that of the witnesses who try to make out that there was no disturbance except among a few boys and that the officer in charge of the party was the only person who fired at all. It has already been stated that the evidence of these witnesses contains its own refutation. There seems to be no doubt that due warning was given to the crowd.

In the matter of firing over the heads of the crowd, Mr.Searle admits that he did do this as part of the warning and from the evidence it would seem that this action had the result that is usually associated with it, viz., to enrage the crowd and make them at once rush on the police.

There remains the question of the number of shots fired. The evidence shows that there were 8 empty cartridge cases and that the Havildar was unable to fire owing to a defective safety catch in his rifle. The eight shots are accounted for by one shot fired over the heads of the crowd by Mr.Searle himself and seven fired by the seven constables. Mr.Searle and his Havildar Bala Prasad say that he ordered only four

159

four shots to be fired, while others of the men say that they heard a general order to fire one round. While accepting Mr.Searle's statement that he only ordered four shots to be fired, the Government are unable to acquit him of blame in this matter inasmuch as it is obvious that a general order to eight men to fire four shots is liable to lead to confusion, and it is incumbent upon the officer who gives such an order to make it clear by which man or section shooting is to take place.

Mr.Searle's conduct has been criticised in one other respect, viz., that he was not in uniform. On this point, he must be ~~entirely~~ acquitted of blame on the evidence of the Assistant Inspector General of Police to whom he reported himself for orders in the absence of the Inspector General in camp. The Assistant Inspector General states that he directed him to proceed to the spot and told him not to lose time in getting his uniform when he proposed to go his house for the purpose. On the other hand it has to be said to Mr.Searle's credit that his men were anxious to fire some time before he gave the order so much so that he had to take away the rifle of one of them to prevent him firing; that when at a later stage he was urged to fire again, he refused to do so, and that he likewise took the responsibility for refusing to act on the suggestion made by Mr.Muhammad Hussain that the ringleaders should be arrested on the ground that there was not a sufficient force of police present.

To sum up, while the Government deeply regret the loss of life that has taken place, they find that the firing was necessitated by the unreasoning attitude of the crowd, by their wild actions and by their attack on the police which resulted in injury to no less than 23 men. As regards the manner of firing, they are disposed to think that the situation was complicated by the issue to the Reserve Police of an arm which was unsuitable to the occasion which had arisen. This matter is under enquiry. Hampered by these circumstances, the officer in charge of the party in most respects made the best use of his discretion that was possible under the circumstances. They find however that he was wrong in firing a shot over the heads of the crowd, which is strictly prohibited by the rules and in failing to specify which of his men should fire the four shots to which he limited the firing.

Mr.Searle was given the rank of an Assistant Superintendent of Police in G.O.No. P.3380-1/Pol-104-25-2 dated the 8th June 1926. In view of the serious consequences that have resulted from the irregularities in firing referred to above, Government consider that some punishment should be inflicted upon him notwithstanding the courage shown by him in dealing with the situation. They are accordingly pleased to direct that he be deprived of the rank of the Assistant Superintendent of Police and reverted as Inspector on Rs.200, any difference between this amount and his pay as Inspector being treated as Personal allowance.

This order will take effect from the 22nd July 1926 the date on which he was placed on suspension the period intervening till the date of his return to duty being treated as privilege or other leave with allowances to which he may be entitled.

The question of altering the arming of the Reserve Police so as to enable buckshot Cartridges to be used is engaging the consideration of Government separately.

84.
Local and Legislative Secretary to Government.

3/5/26

To

The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

The Comptroller to Government

162

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

G.O. No. P. 1199-200—Pol. 57-26, dated 4th September 1926.

Disturbance during the Strike at the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills.

Passes orders on the report on the————on the 20th July 1926.

READ—

Report of the Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore on the occurrence at the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills on the 20th July 1926 with enclosures.

2. Report of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District, No. C. C. 26—26, dated the 22nd July 1926.

3. Further report of the District Magistrate, No. C. C. 26—26, dated the 23rd July 1926, submitting the report of the City Magistrate regarding the enquiry held by him.

4. Further report of the District Magistrate, No. C. C. 26—26, dated the 26th July 1926, submitting the evidence recorded by the City Magistrate.

5. Report of the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore, No. 165—26, dated the 26th July 1926.

6. Further report of the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore, dated the 27th July 1926, forwarding evidence of the witnesses recorded by him.

7. Further report of the District Magistrate, dated the 27th July 1926, submitting notes made by him during the summary enquiry.

8. Further report of the District Magistrate, dated the 28th July 1926, forwarding a list of Reserve Police Officers and constables that attended the Victoria Hospital for treatment.

9. Further report of the District Magistrate, dated the 2nd August 1926, forwarding the evidence of further witnesses examined in respect of the occurrence.

ORDER NO. P. 1199-200—POL. 57-26, DATED BANGALORE, 4TH SEPTEMBER 1926.

The papers read above raise two principal issues in the matter of the Reserve Police shooting and killing four men on the occasion of the strike at the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills on the 20th July 1926:—

(*a*) Whether the circumstances were such as to justify firing on the crowd at all, and

(*b*) whether the firing which did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders regulating such actions or not.

2. The witnesses who speak to the first point fall into three groups, *viz.*,

(*a*) the superior staff of the Mill,

(*b*) the Police, and

(*c*) the work-people.

163

In addition to this there is the testimony of the officers of Government who visited the spot after the occurrence.

3. The oral evidence shows that the staff of the Mills regarded the disturbance as very serious. The evidence of the higher staff of the Mills is supplemented by a large number of messages sent by them by telephone and telegraph and by messengers asking for the assistance of the Police, the Military and even of armoured cars and by the evidence of the actual damage done to the premises and as to the missiles, etc., found after the occurrence.

One of these witnesses states that "the crowd was in a frenzy and calling on the others to hammer the Police, and if the Police had not opened fire probably all would have been killed." Another witness also states that from what had happened, their lives were not worth a candle had the firing not taken place and the Police came in the nick of time and saved the situation. The same witness who inspected the scene of firing after the occurrence was over says that he found numerous stones, 35 casuarina billets, several other large pieces of wood, a wooden hammer and an iron bolt among the missiles that had been thrown at the Police. Even the hospital was attacked and partly wrecked and the doctor in charge says "the Reserve Police stepped in at the right moment; else they would have probably assaulted me." Some at least of the higher staff considered that there was such grave danger in the situation that they did not leave the office, in which they had taken refuge till 4-30 or 5 P.M. in the afternoon long after the firing had taken place. It also appears from the evidence of Inspector Anderton that the Manager of the Mills had been urging the necessity for firing by the earlier party before the party which did the firing had arrived on the scene.

4. The Policemen engaged fall mainly into four groups :—

(*a*) The City Police under the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Muhamad Hussain,

(*b*) A first party of 25 Reserve Police under Inspector Anderton,

(*c*) A second party of 9 Reserve Police under Havildar Ahmed Hussain Haidari, and

(*d*) A third party also of 9 Reserve Police under Assistant Superintendent Mr. Searle.

The City Police who arrived first on the scene were armed only with batons. They were unable to force an entry into the premises. The first party of 25 Reserve Police under Inspector Anderton made their way in with fixed bayonets and reached the Manager's Office, which is 100 yards from the gate with the greatest difficulty, six of the men receiving injuries on the way. Having got in, they were unable to control the situation and were besieged in the Mill Office from which they found it impossible to extricate themselves except by extreme measures. The Manager asked the officer in charge of this party to open fire but the Inspector had been instructed by the Assistant to the Inspector-General not to fire without the orders of the Magistrate, which he endeavoured to obtain. The Assistant Superintendent for Railways and C.I.D., who had been sent meanwhile to report on the position of affairs had telephoned to the Assistant Inspector-General that the situation was grave. The third party, again with fixed bayonets, forced part of their way in but were beaten back with stones, wooden poles and iron rods, and the officer in charge had to take refuge in the Electric Office outside the Mill while his men went into the Time Office. The leader was hurt with an iron weapon and three of his men also received severe injuries. They were rescued by Mr. Searle after the firing. The officer in charge of this party also asked for permission to fire from a C.I.D. Inspector who was with him. The fourth party which was responsible for the firing were informed that there was a very serious situation, one account being that the other Police officers were being badly beaten and likely to be murdered, and another that the Manager had been injured and tied up in his office. They found so large a crowd at the main gate that it was impossible to force their way in, and so tried to take the crowd in the rear and go to the rescue of their comrades, through a cattle gate in the south-east. There, after they had got some little way in, they found themselves faced by a menacing crowd of 200 to 300 coolies whose object was to prevent the Police from advancing and to send them back. Several of the Policemen were injured by the numerous missiles and by a ladder which was thrown down upon them from

an upper part of the building. They remonstrated repeatedly with the crowd, asked them several times to give way (*i.e.*, leave a passage) and warned them of the danger of disobedience by aiming their unloaded rifles at them and in other ways. This had no effect. They were all struck repeatedly with stones, casuarina billets, etc., and half of them more or less badly injured. Finally, Mr. Searle seized a gun from one of the men and fired a shot above the heads of the rioters which only drove them to make a rush towards the Policemen. Mr. Searle then gave the order to fire as the alternative to being overpowered by the crowd with the risk that their arms would be taken away from them and turned against them. The evidence of the Police is supported by the fact that out of 43 men engaged, 23 resorted to the Victoria Hospital for treatment of their injuries in addition to the men who received first aid from the Mill Docter.

5. The evidence of the workmen is very variable. While some of them admit that the temper of the crowd showed signs of having been inflamed, there is a large majority that minimise the seriousness of the disturbance and suggest that the firing was unprovoked.

6. The evidence of the officers who visited the spot after the occurrence shows that a considerable amount of damage was done to the buildings, all the windows in the office for instance being broken and that a large number of missiles had been used against the Police. It shows also that by the time the officers in question reached the Mill the violence of the crowd had abated, though the City Magistrate, who was the first to arrive, found the crowd defiant in attitude and had much difficulty in forcing an entrance. But there has to be considered with this evidence the fact that the witnesses, and especially the superior officers of the Mills, are practically unanimous in saying that the firing had an immediate effect in settling the temper of the crowd.

7. On the whole, the Government find that regrettable as the firing was, the temper and actions of the mob appear to have been such as to necessitate a resort to this extreme method of quelling the disturbance.

8. There remains the question whether the firing that did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders that have been framed on the subject, and which are devised to reduce injury or loss of life on such occasions to the minimum compatible with the quelling of the disturbance. The orders chiefly in point are the following:—

(*a*) The ammunition served out shall be buckshot. Blank cartridges shall not be carried under any circumstances.

(*b*) The mob shall be kept at a distance, so that the Police shall not be overwhelmed by a rush.

(*c*) Full and sufficient warning shall be given to the rioters by the Civil Officer or the officer in command of the Police, as the case may be, of the consequences of failure to disperse.

(*d*) The practice of firing over the heads of the crowd is strictly forbidden.

(*e*) The order of fire shall be given only in the last resort, when it is impossible to disperse the mob by any other means, but when the order is given, the firing shall be at once effective and such as, with the minimum of injury to convince the crowd of the necessity of immediately dispersing.

(*f*) File firing, section firing and volley firing shall be used according to the distance that separates the mob from the Police or the life or property of members of the public are exposed.

9. The first of these orders raises a difficult question. The use of buckshot is prescribed in order to minimise danger to the crowd, but can only be enforced where the Reserve Police are armed with weapons which will take buckshot cartridges. The Mysore Reserve Police which had formerly been armed with a variety of obsolete weapons, were in 1925 re-armed in pursuance of a general scheme framed by the Government of India with 303 single-loading rifles sighted to 500 yards. These rifles will not take buckshot cartridges, and the officer in charge had therefore no other alternative than to use ammunition which it is possible to fire out of the weapons supplied.

10. The 303 rifle has great carrying power and the bullet whether aimed at the crowd or at the ground is likely to cause serious injuries. Mr. Searle says

165

that he first ordered three men to fire one round on the ground. The Havildar says that he heard Mr. Searle give the command that one Naik and three men should fire. The men say, however, that they heard only the order to fire one round. While one says they fired direct at the crowd, another says they fired upwards at an angle of 60° and a third that they fired pointing below. The truth of the matter is perhaps to be found in the evidence of a fourth. "In the *Galata* we raised our guns and fired. We did not see whether the shots went high or low." The evidence as to the nature of the wounds which were examined on the spot by the Mill Doctor indicates that some of the hits were direct, others the result of ricochets from above and below. Thus two of the wounds, described as gunshot wounds in the abdomen and the neck respectively seem likely to be the result of direct hits ; three other wounds described as a lacerated wound in the thigh, a gaping wound in the hip and a gaping wound above the umbilicus may have been due to ricochets off the ground, another which shattered all the bones of the back of the skull was probably due to a ricochet off a wall behind the sufferer, in which connection it may be mentioned that a watchman in the mill also speaks to a ball " falling on him from a wall."

11. As regards keeping the mob at a distance, it would appear that the Police did all that could be expected of them except in one respect which will be referred to later. Though some say the crowd were 60 yards away at the time the firing took place the majority state the distance as 30: and it is in evidence that there was a rush forward after the first shot above the heads of the crowd, which might have resulted in the Police being overpowered and deprived of their weapons by the rioters who contained among them some ex-Sepoys who had been to the war and ex-Special Reserve men.

12. As regards the warning, the men of the party and the officer in charge are unanimous in saying that Mr. Searle went forward and tried to pacify the crowd speaking in English, Tamil and Hindustani and that they all remonstrated repeatedly with them and warned them that they would shoot if they did not give way, and to any one who is acquainted with the character of the average constable it is almost incredible that they would have kept silence in such a situation. There is evidence in support of this verbal warning by one of the men who was wounded and who was examined in the hospital immediately after the occurrence. There is also a large body of evidence of workmen who were in the upper storeys of the Mill that the constables warned the crowd by signs and by aiming unloaded rifles at them and that the officer in charge finally took a rifle and fired a round over the heads of the crowd himself. The evidence that there was no warning is that of the witnesses who try to make out that there was no disturbance except among a few boys and that the officer in charge of the party was the only person who fired at all. There seems to be no doubt that due warning was given to the crowd.

13. In the matter of firing over the heads of the crowd, Mr. Searle admits that he did do this as part of the warning and from the evidence it would seem that this action had the result that is usually associated with it, *viz.*, to enrage the crowd and make them at once rush on the Police.

14. There remains the question of the number of shots fired. The evidence shows that there were eight empty cartridge cases and that the Havildar was unable to fire owing to a defective safety catch in his rifle. The eight shots are accounted for by one shot fired over the heads of the crowd by Mr. Searle himself and seven fired by the seven constables. Mr. Searle and his Havildar Bala Prasad say that he ordered only four shots to be fired, while others of the men say that they heard a general order to fire one round. While accepting Mr. Searle's statement that he only ordered four shots to be fired, the Government are unable to acquit him of blame in this matter inasmuch as it is obvious that a general order to eight men to fire four shots is liable to lead to confusion, and it is incumbent upon the officer who gives such an order to make it clear by which men or section shooting is to take place.

15. Mr. Searle's conduct has been criticised in one other respect, *viz.*, that he was not in uniform. On this point, he must be acquitted of blame on the evidence of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police to whom he reported himself for orders in the absence of the Inspector-General in camp. The Assistant

G.O. No. P. 1199-200—Pol. 57-26, Bangalore, dated 4th September 1926.

Inspector-General states that he directed him to proceed to the spot and told him not to lose time in getting his uniform when he proposed to go to his house for the purpose. On the other hand, it has to be said to Mr. Searle's credit that his men were anxious to fire some time before he gave the order so much so that he had to take away the rifle of one of them to prevent him firing ; that when at a later stage he was urged to fire again, he refused to do so, and that he likewise took the responsibility for refusing to act on the suggestion made by Mr. Muhammad Hussain that the ringleaders should be arrested on the ground that there was not a sufficient force of Police present.

16. To sum up, while the Government deeply regret the loss of life that has taken place, they find that the firing was necessitated by the unreasoning attitude of the crowd, by their wild actions and by their attack on the Police which resulted in injury to no less than 23 men. As regards the manner of firing, they are disposed to think that the situation was complicated by the issue to the Reserve Police of an arm which was unsuitable to the occasion which had arisen. This matter is under enquiry. Hampered by these circumstances, the officer in charge of the party in most respects made the best use of his discretion that was possible under the circumstances. They find however that he was wrong in firing a shot over the heads of the crowd, which is strictly prohibited by the rules, and in failing to specify which of his men should fire the four shots to which he limited the firing.

17. Mr. Searle was given the rank of an Assistant Superintendent of Police in Government Order No. P. 5380-1—Pol. 104-25-2, dated the 8th June 1926. In view of the serious consequences that have resulted from the irregularities in firing referred to above, Government consider that some punishment should be inflicted upon him notwithstanding the courage shown by him in dealing with the situation. They are accordingly pleased to direct that he be deprived of the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police and reverted as Inspector on Rs. 200, any difference between this amount and his pay as Inspector being treated as Personal Allowance. This order will take effect from the 22nd July 1926 the date on which he was placed on suspension the period intervening till the date of his return to duty being treated as privilege or other leave with allowances to which he may be entitled.

The question of altering the arming of the Reserve Police so as to enable buckshot cartridge to be used is engaging the consideration of Government.

B. NAGAPPA,

Secretary to Government,
Local and Legislative Departments.

To—The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.
The Comptroller to Government.

WD 509—GBPM—450—22-10-26

G.R.S. III—3]

167

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Subject.

Whether we have to take action regarding the incident at Bury the other day being Communicated to the Rly to for orders.

Kind reference is invited to para 779 of Standing orders

MSK 22/7/26.

Has a report been rcd by Govt. in Rly Branch? A report sh perhaps go but we shd have a report of facts

MS 22/7

To the Police Superintendent Protection Branch for favour of noting if a report has been received.

MS 22/7/26

No report has so far been received in this Branch

MSK 22/7/26

Subject

MS 22/7/26

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

166

C/1607

G.R.S. III—31

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

It is perhaps necessary for us to send a report to the Resy regarding the occurrence at Bruce's Mills on the 20th. A preliminary report may perhaps be sent as soon as we hear from the Dt Magte. No report seems to have been received from him yet.

Chief

Why? Is this due under any Standing orders? We are quite entitled to deal with such occurrences within the Rule.

23/7

Attention is invited to para 779 of the Manual of Standing Orders.

Chief

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Further action to be taken on the recent disturbance in the Binny Mills, Bangalore.

Order.

Submitted to His Highness.

M

I have already reported to His Highness the disturbance that took place in the Bangalore Silk, Woollen and Cotton Mills Limited, and the action of the Police in suppressing it, which resulted in the death of five persons and wounding of three others.

2. The matter has since been further examined in detail by the City Magistrate, the District Magistrate, and the Inspector General of Police, who are all of the opinion that the circumstances of the case were such as to justify the acts of the Police, though the District and the City Magistrates think that the casualties have been greater than would have been necessary, if the situation had been dealt with more coolly and without an exaggerated sense of danger.

3. The First Member has reviewed the whole position in his note, dated the 4th August 1926, and I agree with his general conslusions that the Police had some grounds to be alarmed at the situation, and prepare themselves to take energetic measures to prevent the mob from committing excesses. It is very difficult for persons placed in this position, when they are not able to see things in a clear perspective, to decide as to the exact risks they should take, and the injuries that should be inflicted, and there is no reason to believe that the firing on the part of the Police was due to any wanton act of cruelty on their part or to any intentional disobedience of the law. We have, therefore, to make some allowance for them in these circumstances. At the same time, from the facts before us and after what I have seen and heard myself, I cannot say whether the firing was not premature, and whether other methods of frightening the mob, usually adopted in such cases before actual firing is resorted to, would

Pages 1 to 6
of Office Notes

not have been sufficient. From the admissions of the Police, it is clear that the shooting was not conducted in a manner intended to cause as little harm as possible compatible with the effectual quelling of the disturbance, and more shots than were necessary were fired. Mr. Searle cannot escape responsibility for these excesses, which resulted, as already stated, in the death of five persons and injuries to several others.

4. The matter was considered in Council who have resolved as follows:- Page 7 of Office Notes

"Mr. Searle may be given whatever leave he is entitled to from the date on which he was relieved till the date of superannuation."

5. Mr. Searle has about 11 months more to become superannuated. In view of the fact that his precipitate conduct in firing, and not seeing that the minimum extent of injury was caused, has resulted in the loss of so many lives, his further retention in service, does not seem desirable. He may be given leave and asked to retire at the end of it. I feel that the punishment is none too severe, but it is, perhaps, sufficient in the circumstances.

6. As observed by the First Member, the conduct of the District Magistrate, Mr. B. Venkoba Rao, in not proceeding to the spot immediately is not satisfactory. He had information of the impending riot in time, so that if he had hurried to the spot at once some of the mistakes might have been avoided. My impression is that his reluctance was partly inspired by natural timidity, and partly by a desire to shirk the responsibility of taking the situation in his own hands. It is proposed to take his explanation. It is not desirable, nor is it possible, to overlook conduct of this kind on the part of a senior officer, responsible for the administration of the District and the maintenance of peace and order, who deliberately delays proceeding to the spot as soon as intimation reaches

him, and assuming the general direction of affairs, but prefers to leave the situation to be handled by his subordinates.

7. The resolution of the Council may be graciously approved.

Mirza M. Ismail

Bangalore,
8th August 1926.

S.N.

Order No. dated

The papers read above raise two principal issues in the matter of the regrettable incident at the Bangalore Woollen and Cotton Mills on the 20th July last:-

(1) Whether the circumstances were such as to justify firing on the crowd at all;
and (2) whether the firing which did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders governing the question, or not.

The witnesses who speak to the first point fall naturally into four groups:

(1) the superior staff of the Mill,

(2) the Police

(3) the workpeople

and (4) the officers of Government who visited the spot after the occurrence.

The evidence of the higher staff of the mills is supplemented by a large number of messages sent by them by telephone and telegraph and by direct messenger asking for the assistance of the police, the military and even of armoured cars, and by the evidence of the actual damage done to the premises and as to the missiles etc. found there after the occurrence. The oral evidence shows that the staff of the mills regarded the disturbance as very serious. One witness says 'the mob was in a frenzy and calling on the others to hammer the police. They wanted to drive the police out of the mills by violence. If the police had not opened fire, probably we would all have been killed. They were calling out for

for Mr.Bentley and Mr. Southworth ~~when~~ from they wanted to kill." He adds " I have been in three strikes in the mills before, but never saw one like this. If the police had not opened fire, the police would have been overpowered, probably taken the rifles from the police and killed us". Another says "I do ~~not~~ believe that if the manage had come out at the time they would have torn hir to bits. -----.From what happened with the crou had the firing not taken place, I don't think our lives were worth a candle, as the mob were determined to do some great mischief. ~~if~~ The police came in at the nick of time and saved the situation." The same witness, who inspected the scene of firing after the occurrence was over, says that he found numerous stones, 35 casuarina billets, several other large pieces of wood, a wooden ham and an iron bolt among the missiles that had been thrown at the police. Even the hospital was attacked and partly wrecked and the doctor in charge says " the reserve police stepped in at the right moment else they would have probably assaulted me." Some at least of the higher staf did not leave the offices in which they had take refuge till 4.30 or 5.0 in the afternoon, or long after the firing had taken place. It also appears from the evidence of the Inspector Mr. Anderton, that the Manager of the mills had been urging the ~~p~~ necessity for firing by the earlier party, before the party which did the firing had arrived on the scene.

(b) The evidence of the police is supported by the fact that out of 43 men engaged, twenty-three ~~n~~ resorted to the Victoria Hospital for treatment of their injuries, in addition to the

men who received first aid from the mill doctor on the spot. The policemen engaged fall mainly into four groups:-

(1) the City Police under Assistant Superintendent Mr. Muhammad Hussain;

(2) a first party of ~~35~~ 25 reserve police under Inspector Mr. Anderton;

(3) a second party of 9 reserve police under Havildar Ahmed Hussain Haidari;

(4) a third party, also of 9 reserve police, under Assistant Superintendent Mr. Searle.

The City police were armed only with batons, and the Assistant Superintendent gave evidence to the effect that he had to threaten to shoot them to induce them to advance at all. Even so, niether he nor they were able to force their way into the mill. The first party of ~~25~~ 25 reserve police under Inspector ~~Mr.~~ Anderton made their way in with fixed bayonets and reached the Manager's office, which is 100 yards from the gate, with the greatest difficulty, six of ~~his~~ the men receiving injuries on the way. Having got in they were unable to control the situation and were besieged in the mill office from which they found it impossible to extricate themselves except by extreme measures. T h e manager asked the officer in charge of this party to ppen fire, but the Inspector had been instructed by the Assistant to the Inspector General not to fire without the orders of a magistrate, which he endeavoured to obtain. The

Assistant

Superintendent for Railways and C.I.D. who had been sent meanwhile to report on the position of affairs had telephoned to the Assistant Inspector-General that the situation was grave. The third party, again with fixed bayonets, forced part of their way in, but were beaten back with stones, wooden poles and iron rods, and the officer in charge ~~was badly injured~~ and had to take refuge ~~with~~ his men in the Time Office. ~~The leader and~~ three of his men received severe injuries. They were rescued by Mr. Searle after the firing. The officer in charge of this party also asked for permission to fire from a C.I.D.Inspector who was with him. The fourth party, which was responsible for the firing, were informed that there was a very serious situation, one account being that the other police officers were being badly beaten and likely to be murdered, and another that the manager had been injured and was tied up in his office. They found so large a crowd at the main gate that it was impossible to force their way in, and so tried to take the crowd in the rear and go to the rescue of their comrades through a ~~cattle~~ gate in the south ~~end~~. There, after they had got some little way in, they found themselves faced by a menacing crowd of 200 to 300 coolies ~~and unable to~~ advance. Several of them were injured by the numerous missiles of which figures have been given above and by a ladder which was thrown down upon them from an upper part of the building. They remonstrated repeatedly with the crowd, and warned them ~~in various ways~~. This had no effect. They were all struck

~~of the danger of disobedience by firing their loaded rifles at them and in other ways.~~

repeatedly with stones, casuarina billets etc., and half of them more or less seriously injured. Finally, they resorted to firing as the alternative to being over-powered by the crowd with the risk that their arms would be taken away from them and turned against them.

Seized a gun from one of the men & Mr Seale fired a shot above the heads of the mob, which only made them make a rush towards the Policemen. Mr. Seale then gave the order to fire

The evidence of the workmen is very variable: The following statement of one of the ringleaders illustrates the temper of the crowd:-

"When I came back to the mill after food, all the people were standing outside their departments in the mill and did not go inside for work. They were saying that they would not go for work if they were not paid bonus. Our master, Bentley, called me and asked me what the matter was. I told him what the workmen were saying. He did not give any reply regarding bonus, but was simply asking the men to work. We were sitting near the Manager's office. The manager asked us to give him 3 days time and said that he would ask the Head Office and if they sanctioned bonus and if he received their order, he would consider. He did not even say that he would pay after the order was received. Then, as spokesman of the workmen and as suggested by them, I told the Manager that if he gave a written agreement stating that he would pay bonus after three days. The manager refused to give such an agreement. Then we refused to work and said that we would go away if our dues up-to-date were settled."

The following is the statement of a man employed in the spinning department who took no part in the disturbance, but watched it from an upper window, and is representative of the evidence

of a number of similar witnesses:-

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Bangalore District.

W.6 Sawmi Dorai.

Father Masilamani

Age 48.

Occupation Binny Mills, Spinning Department.

Solemnly affirmed:-

" Boys were throwing stones. They came rushing and was near Reeling upstairs. We came to window of Reeling to see where the boys were rushing. The boys were of all ages. Policemen came by the lane. There was a Dorai with them. Boys were throwing stones and firewood at them. The Policemen were standing and they advanced. Stone throwing became more fierce. The Saheb asked the crowd to retire raising his hands. The crowd did not retire. They continued to throw stones and firewood. The Saheb then pointed a fire arm at the crowd. The crowd continued to throw stones even then. There there was a shot. The Saheb returned the firearm to the Sepoy and the Policemen then fired ~~4~~ in a line. Then we moved away. I did not hear the saheb as he was far away, but I saw him raise his hand to the crowd as a gesture to ask them to go away. Then we saw the injured man through the window. I did not see a ladder there. Then the galata subsided.

~~Examination by the I.O.P. Nil.~~

~~Read and admitted correct.~~

~~(Sd) B.Venkoba Rao,~~

~~2nd August 1926.~~ ~~District Magistrate.~~

As against these, there has been offered a certain amount of evidence which minimises the

seriousness of the disturbance and suggests that the firing was almost unprovoked. The following is a sample:-

"There was no galata at the place where I was. At about 2.30 p.m. or 2.45 p.m. the reserve police came with a European in white dress. -Some little boys began to throw stones at them. The stones did not fall on them as they were at some distance. We threatened the boys to go away. They went away. Ten or fifteen people who were workers in my department were standing at the door of our, i.e., the Woollen,Department. The European in white dress then fired without any cause or warning." Another witness, who corroborates this, says that there were only four or five boys who threw stones and that the total number of stones thrown were also only four or five. A third, who tries to put the blame of all injuries on the officer in charge of the party, says that a shot which wounded him in the neck also hit another man in the thigh and another again on the back of the head. These statements are clearly so exaggerated as to be unacceptable even if they were not contradicted by overwhelming evidence of credible witnesses as well as by material facts, and demonstrably false in several particulars.

Another says that all the firing was by Europeans (Mr. Seth)

The evidence of the officers who visited the spot after the occurrence shows that a considerable amount of damage was done to the buildings

buildings, and that a large number of missiles had been used against the police. It shows also that, by the time the officers reached the mill, the violence of the crowd had abated, though the City Magistrate, who was the first to arrive, ~~and~~ found the crowd defiant in attitude and had much difficulty in forcing an entrance. But there has to be considered with this evidence the fact that the witnesses, and especially the superior officers of the mills, are practically unanimous in saying that the firing had had an immediate effect in settling the temper of the crowd. As one witness, ~~describes that a great cry went up for 3 or 4 minutes, and then the crowd became much quieter (give exact words).~~ Thus, the fact that the danger had passed by the time the magistrates arrived on the scene cannot be taken as showing that no danger had existed.

On the whole, the Government find that, regrettable as the firing was, the temper and actions of the mob appear to have been such as to necessitate a resort to this extreme method of quelling the disturbance.

There remains the question whether the firing that did take place was conducted in accordance with the orders that have been framed on the subject, and which are devised to reduce injury or loss of life on such occasions to the minimum compatible with quelling the disturbance. The orders chiefly in point are the following:-

(1) The ammunition served out shall be buckshot. Blank cartridges shall not be carried under any circumstances.

(2) The mob shall be kept at a distance, so that the police shall not be overwhelmed by a rush.

(3) Full and sufficient warning shall be given to the rioters by the civil officer or the officer in command of the police, as the case may be, of the consequence of failure to disperse.

(4) The practice of firing over the heads of the crowd is strictly forbidden.

(5) The order of fire shall be given only in the last resort, when it is impossible to disperse the mob by any other means; but when the order is given, the firing shall be at once effective, and such as, with the minimum of injury, to convince the crowd of the necessity of immediately dispersing.

(6) File firing, section firing and volley firing shall be used according to the distance that separates the mob from the police, or the degree of danger to which the police or the life or property of members of the public are exposed.

The first of these orders raises a difficult question. The use of buckshot is prescribed in order to minimise danger to the crowd, but can only be enforced where the reserve police are armed with weapons which will take buckshot cartridges. The Mysore reserve police, which had formerly been armed with a variety of obsolete weapons, were in 1925 re-armed with .303 single-loading rifles sighted

in pursuance of a general scheme framed by the Government of India,

to 500 yards. These rifles will not take buckshot cartridges. (Obviously, therefore, no blame can be attached to the officer in charge for using the only ammunition which it is possible to fire out of the weapons supplied. Further than this, the position presented him with a very difficult problem. The .303 rifle has great carrying power and the bullet, if aimed at the crowd would be liable to pass through more than one body, inflicting a hole which would be slightly less than the circumference of a pencil on entry and a somewhat larger one on exit. The same bullet, if it hit the ground or a building first would be liable to be deflected sideways and also to mushroom with the result that it would inflict a much larger and more severe and jagged wound. The officer charged with the responsibility of quelling a riot with these weapons is therefore presented with two alternatives, each liable to be disastrous. According to the evidence the alternative chosen by Mr. Searle was to order the havildar and three men to fire one round on the ground. The men, say, however, that they heard only the order to fire one round, and while one says they fired direct at the crowd, another says they fired upwards at an angle of 60° and a third that they fired "pointing below". The truth of the matter is perhaps to be found in the evidence of a fourth: "In the galata we raised our gun and fired. We did not see whether the shots went high or low." A fifth adds "if we had delayed a moment the crowd would have snatched our rifles and killed us --- we were trembling with fear." The evidence as to the nature of the wounds, which were examined on the spot by the mill doctor, indicates that some of the hits were direct, others the result of ricochets

from above and below. Thus two of the wounds, described as gun shot wounds in the abdomen and the neck, respectively, seem likely to be the result of direct hits; three other wounds described as a lacerated wound in the thigh, a gaping wound in the hip and a gaping wound above the umbilicus may have been due to ricochets off the ground; another which shattered all the bones of the back of the skull was probably due to a ricochet off a wall behind the sufferer, in which connection it may be mentioned that a watchman in the mill also speaks to a ball falling on him from a wall. The Government are examining the question of altering the arming of the reserve police so as to enable buck-shot to be used.

As regards keeping the mob at a distance, it would appear that the police did all that could be expected of them except in one respect which will be referred to later. Though some say the crowd were 60 yards away at the time the firing took place, the majority state the distance as 30; and it is in evidence that there was a rush forward after the first shot which might have resulted in the police being overpowered and deprived of their weapons by the rioters who contained among them ~~a Gurkha Sergeant from the Depot~~ (She had been to the War and in Special Service there.)

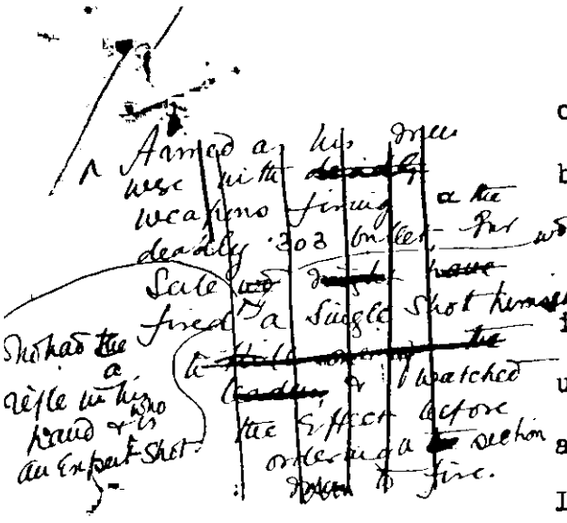
As regards the warnings, the men of the party and the officer in charge are unanimous in saying that Mr. Searle went forward and tried to pacify the crowd speaking in English, Tamil and Hindustani and that they all remonstrated repeatedly with them and warned them that they would shoot if they did not give way, and to any one who is acquainted with the character of the average constable, it is almost incredible that they should have kept silence in such a situation. There is evidence in support of this verbal warning by one of the men who was wounded and who was examined in the hospital

hospital immediately after the occurrence. There is also a large body of evidence of workmen who were in the upper storeys of the mill that the constables warned the crowd by signs and by aiming unloaded rifles at them, and that the officer in charge finally

took a rifle and fired a round over the heads of the crowd himself. The evidence that there was no warning is that of the witnesses who try to make out that there was no disturbance except among a few boys and that the officer in charge of the party was the only person who fired at all. It has already been stated that the evidence of these witnesses contains its own refutation. There seems to be no doubt that due warning was given to the crowd.

In the matter of firing over the heads of the crowd, Mr. Searle admits that he did do this as part of the warning, and from the evidence it would seem that this action had the result that is usually associated with it, viz., to enrage the crowd and make them at once rush on the police.

There remains the question of the number of shots fired. The evidence shows that there were 8 empty cartridge cases, and that the havildar was unable to fire owing to a defective safety catch in his rifle. These eight are accounted for by one shot fired over the heads of the crowd by Mr. Searle himself and seven fired by the seven constables. Mr. Searle and his havildar Bala Prasad say that he ordered only four shots to be fired, while others of the men say that they heard a general order to fire. While accepting Mr. Searle's statement that he only ordered four shots to be fired, the Government are unable to acquit him of blame in this matter inasmuch as it is obvious that a general order to eight men to fire ~~three~~ four shots is liable to lead to confusion, and it is incumbent upon the



officer who gives such an order to make it clear by which man or section shooting is to take place.

Mr. Searle's conduct has been criticised in one other respect viz., that he was not in uniform. On this point, he must be entirely acquitted of blame on the evidence of the Assistant Inspector General of Police to whom he reported himself for orders in the absence of the Inspector General in camp. The Assistant Inspector General states that he directed him to proceed to the spot and told him not to lose time in getting his uniform when he proposed to go to his house for the purpose. On the other hand, it has to be said to Mr. Searle's credit that his men were anxious to fire some time before he gave the order, and that he likewise took the responsibility for refusing to act on the suggestion made to him by Mr. Muhammad Hussain that the ringleaders should be arrested, on the ground that there was not a sufficient force of police present to ensure the arrests being effected, when at a later stage he was urged to order firing again, he declined to do so.

so much so that he had to take away the rifle and warn him to prevent him firing.

that when at a later stage he was urged to fire again, he refused to do so,

To sum up, while Government deeply regret the loss of life that has taken place, they find that the firing was necessitated by the unreasoning attitude of the crowd, by their wild actions and by their attack on the police which resulted in the wounding of no less than 19 (?) men, 5 of whom received wounds. As regards the manner of firing, they are disposed to think that the situation was complicated by the issue to the reserve police of an ø arm which was unsuitable to such occasions. This matter is under enquiry. Hampered by these circumstances, the officer in charge of the party in some respects

made the best use of his discretion that was possible under the circumstances. They find, however, that he was wrong in firing a shot over the heads of the crowd, which is strictly prohibited by the rules, and in failing to specify which of his men should fire the ~~three~~ four shots to which he limited the firing. Mr. Searle was placed under suspension with effect from 22nd July (1915). ~~He retires from service with effect from, (1915).~~ The order of suspension will be converted into one of leave and he may be ~~granted such leave as is permissible from the date of this till the date of retirement.~~ admissible to him and admitted to pension thereafter.

(He has completed 25 years service

& that he ought to have Enlisted Recruits who, if he had first fired a single shot in the Air would obey his Officer

permitted to retire after availing himself of the leave that he is entitled to.)

385/p/26.

169

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

With reference to Asst Secy's order on the DOI's letter, it is ascertained that no report in the matter has yet been sent to the Residency from Myg Br as no report was received there on the subject from the DPI or any one else.

If approved the DOI's letter will be sent to Myg Br for necessary action.

Yr.
Asst
24.7
24/7 (to Mulgpsr)

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
Received on
26. JUL. 1926
Reg. No. 560.

Submit with a draft letter for orders

Mook
24/7/26

Dft may be appd
If it is decided to send
a report as was suggested
on a file submitted earlier

Mook
24/7

Chief

Draft as in the
report to be made under
standing orders

24/7/
Yr.

Flag A

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Issued vide 54A 26/7/1926

170

007

38-

54-0

B.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Re the Disturbance at Bairagnikh

Submd.

This will be transferred to the Protection Branch for further action.

NSK
27/7/26

Yes
29/7

Supt Prot. Br. wte compltd

NSK
27/7/26.

Subd for perusal - The further report promised may be awaited

AHR
28/7

cag
28/7

further report is also received.

The files containing the further Report & Press communique be forwarded herewith for sending a further report to the Residency

Supt. Please bring this
S
29-7 cag 29.7

Chief Secy
With Compts.

S
29-7

Draft put up
MW
29/7

Chf Secy

Sec
S
31/7

MW
31/7

Issued vide U/No S 31.7.26

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

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1) The connected papers are being worked up in the Confidential Branch. They may also be referred to that Branch.

MW
19/8/26

CB
MSK
10/8/26.

The question is not being dealt with in CB. but the papers have now been sent to H. Highness

CB
12/8/26

Mark this. be sent to the Protection Branch for favour of noting whether any report on the trial required has been received?

MW
14/8/26

The Prot. Br. may be referred after asking the C.B. can again if the

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

MW 10/8/26

.172

1069

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

4) This may be sent to the CPS for favour of furnishing the information whether investigations are over and whether final results can be reported.

MW
16/8/26

5) CB. with Compts. If the connected records have since been transferred to the Rotn Br. for further action that may also be kindly noted

MSK
16/8/26.

6) The main file was handed to Dewan with Ws. P. on 16/8/26. It has not yet been received here so far.

16/8/26

7) Can this be now sent to the Production Branch?

MW
18/8/26

8) Put up after Dewan returns

MW
19/8

9) Seen as ordered.

MW
21/8/26

MSK
28/8/26

10) The Residency letter is sent for perusal we may send a reminder if the finalisement when the cases are disposed by trials

MW
27/8

V.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

11) Yes

Attach C.B. with Compts for kind note to the

MSK
21/8/26

Wish Director. No papers in CB.

MW 21/8/26. Protection Bks may be consulted.

1069

177/120
P 926.

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

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1) This may now be sent to the Pol. Secrett. for there and return

MS.
31/8/26

Pol. Secrett. U.O. note Compts

Mish
9/9/26

2) Noted. There are no papers in this Branch either

Secret for perusal before return to the Pol. Branch.

cag
4/9

Mish
4/9

Simpson)

Secret
2/9

3) Forwarded as to what reply may be sent to the Residency
Vide last page para, 10 & 11

Mish
8/9

Ch Secy

4) The file has since been received & placed below A draft is sputnik. Henceforth this a press communique as. MS
8/9

Ch Secy

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
Received on
9 - SEP. 1926
Reg. No 1915

5) Draft may be approved. We may send the note accompanying the letter as the basis of a Press Communique. The file will be sent to the Judicial Office for further action after the letter to the Residency is issued.

Secy

V.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

6) Has a press note been issued? If not, please do so now.

Secy

Issued vide Press Communique dated 9.9.26

9.9.26

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

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22) Subs the file to the Dewan in person today. He directed that the P.O. shd be placed on the Press Table and a copy of it might be sent to the Resy.

Sd Time the letter to Resy as revised now typed by clerk.
+ send on file to D.C. Seeth for placing a copy of the P.O. on the Press Table (Copies for the Press Table might be typed in duplicate, a copy for the file.)

Sd
13/9.

No. Pol. 25/9 dt 14/9/26 to the Secy. to Resident forwarding a copy of the orders.

23) The file may now be sent to the Publication Branch as per under Secy's orders above.
Copies for the Press Table are placed in the file.

Sd
14/9/26

24) Place them on the Press Table.

Sd
14/9

Sd

V.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

A copy of the P.O. was placed on the Press Table & another copy was sent to Mysore Press Room

14/9/26

WD 01264—GPB—40,000—17-18-28

Serial No.

25) As desired by the Dewan, G.O. on the Mill riots which is being typed, will be placed on the Press table.

I understand from Mr Rowe-Lee that a brief Communique is also issued on the subject.

Submitted for kind perusal.

Dewan. 13.9

26) 13.9.26

14/9

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

27) Secy. The copy of the order has been placed on the Press Table. Whether the same has to be printed (1) & translated (2) & published in the Gazette (3) & forwarded to the Editors - may be ordered

Secy 14/9/26

28) (4) Whether, in case the GO is not to be published in the Gazette, copies of the same have to be sent to the Editors of Newspapers & Journals on the Exchange list; vide GO no 2339-48 fm 24-26-6 dt 30.8.1926, which requires GOs published & placed at the disposal of the Press but not published in the Official Gazette, to be posted to the Editors. It is not however clear whether the expression GOs published in the GO dt 30.8.26 is intended to include GOs & orders of this kind in question.

29) It is perhaps not the intention to print, publish or translate the order. It has been placed on the Press Table & a press communique will also issue. No further action is perhaps called for

Secy 1/9/26

Please refer to Publicity Officer

The Press Communique has been issued

Secy 1st Sept 30

3060 1/9 32) Press communique has already issued. A copy is put up for information to Secy with compts. Dy Publicity Officer 31

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips the notes must be copied, or slips pasted o this form.

177

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

3) Orders are solicited on the points raised.

L+L Secy
21/9/21

Cag
17.9

3248
21.9.

SG
18/9
Cag
18/9

4) Please refer to orders passed. Publicity Officer has to determine/decide re policies of the Govt.

Lee
21/9.

SG
21-9 Cag
21/9

3) Publicity Officer)

5) I agree with the A. Secy that it is not necessary to publish the above in the Gazette of Extraordinary. The order has been placed on the Press table and a Communique has been issued. No further action appears to be called for.

L+L Secy with Compts.

RG
22/9.

Cag
22/9

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

[redacted]

15 9
Cag
15

VI. Gl.J

SUBJECT..... 178

Section J/M.
File No. 47-26
Serial No. 1

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

No. Pol. 84

To

The Secy to the President

General and Revenue Secretariat
( )
the *192*

Sir,

I am directed to report for the information of the Hon the President that there was a disturbance in the Binny Mills, Bangalore on the 20th instant, in connection with the mill hands requiring certain concessions from the mill authorities. The Police whose help was sought dispersed the crowd and 2 persons were killed on the spot and 2 died in the Civil Hospital that night. The matter is being further investigated into.

Two more persons are said to have been injured

I have &c.

Date of issue 26-7-26

Signed by Mr. P. G. D'Souza

List of enclosures.....

Copied by.....

Examined by.....

for Chief Secy 24/7

over

507

170

No. Pol. 116 Secret

dt. 31-7-1926

To

The Secretary to the Hon'ble the
Resident in Mysore.

S i r,

In continuation of my letter No. Pol.84 G.M.47-26-1 dated the 26th July 1926 regarding t disturbance among the Mill hands in the Binny Mills, Bangalore, on the 20th instant, I am direc ted to forward herewith for the information of the Hon'ble the Resident a copy of a Press Communi que issued by Government for information so far collected as to the origin and development of th disturbance. When the enquiry is completed a further ~~report~~ communication will be ~~forwarded~~ made.

I have etc.,

Chief Secretary to Govt.

Office of the Publicity Officer,
Public Offices,
Bangalore, Dated 28th July 1926.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

- In view of the conflicting, and in some cases unquestionably incorrect, reports that have been published regarding the disturbance in the Bangalore Silk, Woollen and Cotton Mills on Tuesday the 20th instant, the Publicity Officer is directed to publish the following brief summary of the evidence recorded in the summary enquiries made immediately after the occurrence. It is necessary to observe, however, that these enquiries were not complete and that the matter is still under investigation by the District Magistrate, so that it is quite possible that any conclusions based on the earlier enquiries may need modification.

There would appear to be no doubt that the disturbance had its origin in the anxiety of the workmen of the Mills as to whether they would receive a bonus for the half-year ending 30th June 1926. They had received such bonuses in recent years, and the date on which they expected payment had passed. When they approached the Manager in the matter, he told them that he had not yet received the orders of the Head Office, and asked them to wait for three days for these to be obtained. In reply, they demanded an agreement in writing that the bonus would be paid in three days. As the Manager was unable to give this, the workmen struck work, used threats to kill members of the staff, and began to pelt stones and to thrust sticks into the windows of the office. The trouble appears to have begun at about 10 o'clock in the morning, but came to a head on the return of the men after the lunch interval. As it became more and more serious, repeated messages were sent for police aid.

The City policemen, who had only their batons, were unable to make any impression on the crowd, and could not even force an entry into the Mill. A first party of 26 Reserve Police managed to make their way to the Manager's office in the face of a threatening crowd of 4,000 men, who resented their interference. Six of them suffered injury in so doing. Finding themselves unable to control the crowd, they took refuge in the office, which they were unable to leave. A second party of 9 men advanced with fixed bayonets, but were unable to force their way through the gate. They all received injuries, more or less severe in character, and had to take refuge in the Guard Room, where they were besieged, and considerable damage was done to the premises. At this stage, telephone messages were sent for further men, also asking for the presence of an officer who had power to give orders to open fire. Meanwhile, a third party of 9 men under the Assistant Superintendent of Police had arrived. Finding themselves unable to enter by the main gate, they secured an entry to the Mills by a gate at the back. On the way they received reports from other police officers that there was a very serious situation in the Mills. The party advanced with fixed bayonets, to be met with showers of sticks and stones. Their remonstrances to the crowd passed unheeded; nor did the pointing of their rifles towards the crowd or the firing of a shot in the air

have any better effect. Eventually, the Assistant Superintendent ordered firing. The evidence as to the number of men who were ordered to fire and as to the manner of firing is conflicting, and it is undesirable to attempt to summarise it until it has been thoroughly sifted. As a result, two were killed on the spot, two died in hospital and two were wounded, who are now out of danger. After the firing, the police advanced, but were unable to reach the Manager's office, and had again to retreat with their rifles pointed towards the crowd.

At about 3 p.m., the City Magistrate arrived on the spot and found the crowd in an excited state and the premises strewn with stones, billets, sticks and iron rods. The District Magistrate arrived ten minutes later and both advised the crowd to disperse, leaving a few men behind to discuss the matters in issue. The workmen were unwilling to leave without gate passes on the ground that, if they did so, they would be taken as having been discharged. Nor would they accept an undertaking from the District Magistrate that this would not be so.

The Dewan, accompanied by the First Member of Council, arrived on the spot at about 4-45 p.m. His presence had a salutary effect and the workmen placed their grievances before him and received an assurance of redress. Thereafter, they dispersed in an orderly manner.

It is understood that the matter of the bonus has since been amicably settled and that the workmen have returned to work. Also, that suitable compensation has been given in the case of the men who were killed or injured. The District Magistrate is now making an exhaustive enquiry into the whole affair, and pending receipt of his conclusions, the Assistant Superintendent of Police who ordered the firing has been suspended from duty.

R. RANGA RAO,
Publicity Officer to the Government of Mysore.

7 16956

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

No. 6785 Enclos. 181 Dated Bangalore, 7 Aug. 1926.
422A-1897.

From

Major K. A. G. Evans Gordon,

SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

Pol 147

GEN. & REV. SECT. PR. 8m 17 AUG. 1926 G. D. SECTT.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Subject :—

Disturbance among the Mill-Hands
in the Binny Mills, Bangalore.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the thanks of the Hon'ble the Resident for the copy of the Press communique forwarded with your letter No.Pol.116/Gm., dated the 31st July 1926, and to say that he would be grateful if he could kindly be informed of the final results of the investigation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

K Evans-Gordon

Major.
SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT

183

No Pol. 259 & Pol

D 14/9/26.

To

The Secretary to the Hon'ble the
Resident in Mysore.

S i r,

I am directed to invite attention to correspondence ending with your letter No.6785/ 422-A - 1897 dated the 7th August 1926 in regard to the disturbance among the Mill hands in the Binny Mills, Bangalore, on the 20th of July last and to enclose for the information of the Hon'ble the Resident a copy of the ~~note~~ ~~on the results of the investigation into the occurrence since~~ order issued by Govt in the matter.

Revised as dicted
G Dewan. 13/9

I have etc.,

Chief Secretary to Govt.

Office of the Publicity Officer to Government,
Public Offices,
Bangalore, Dated 14th September 1926.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

The Communique issued on 28th July 1926 contains a statement of the causes of the disturbance in the Binny Mills on the 20th idem and the manner in which it developed and was subsequently quelled. The further investigation referred to therein has been completed but there is nothing of importance to add to what was stated there. The evidence since collected shows that the mill authorities regarded the disturbance as very serious and considering the size of the crowd and its temper there was justification for this apprehension. As stated in the Communique, one party of police were unable to force an entry into the premises; a second party having got into the Manager's Office were unable to control the situation; a third party had to take refuge in the Electrical Office outside the Mill and in the Time Office. The fourth party in trying to get into the Mill by a gate in the rear found themselves before a crowd of 200 or 300 workmen who prevented them from advancing. The Officer in charge seems to have remonstrated repeatedly with the crowd and tried to persuade them to disperse quietly. As this had no effect and the crowd attacked the party, the officer, seized a gun from one of his men and fired a shot above the heads of the rioters. The crowd then rushed on the police and the officer in charge, as the only alternative to being over-powered, gave the order to fire. In the circumstances, the Police Officer concerned appears to have made the best possible use of his discretion.

It appears however from the enquiry that the ammunition used in firing was not what is permitted in the regulations as the rifle with which the reserve police are armed does not take the regulation ammunition. Also, firing over the heads of the crowd was wrong. Further, the manner of giving the order to fire seems to have been vague as the men do not seem to have known who should fire and who should not. In view of these irregularities and of the seridus consequences which resulted therefrom, Government have ordered the reversion of the officer concerned from the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police to that of an Inspector. The question of altering the arming of the Reserve Police to suit the regulations regarding firing is under consideration.

R. RANGA RAO,
Publicity Officer to the Government of Mysore.

1467/P/26 Pol. 1&3 Fn 24 84

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

No. 875 Enclos. 422A-1897

Dated Bangalore, 21st Sept. 1926.

185

From

Major K. A. G. Evans Gordon,

SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

GEN. & REV. SECTT. Dr. Gm 22. SEP. 1926 G. D. SECTION.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Subject :—

Disturbance among the Mill-hands in the Binny Mills, Bangalore.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter No.Pol.259/Gm., dated the 14th September 1926, forwarding a copy of the order issued by the Mysore Government in the matter.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

K Evans-Gordon

Major.

SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

Sir,
The Connected file was transferred to the Political Branch.
my 25/9/26

Subject Pol. Br. will comply
MSK
25/9/26 Subject for perusal. Will be placed in the file which has been called in another connection — on its return — Yes — 25/9

AN
25/9